

Mazowiecki meets head of KGB

WARSAW (R) — Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Poland's first non-Communist prime minister for more than 40 years, had talks Saturday with Vladimir Kryshtakov, head of the Soviet KGB security police. Polish television said Mazowiecki, a veteran activist of the once-banned free trade union Solidarity, met Kryshtakov and acting Interior Minister Czeslaw Kizniak in Warsaw. It did not give further details. Kryshtakov had earlier held talks with President Wojciech Jaruzelski. All the meetings were sure to have covered Soviet security concerns after the historic change of power in Poland. The new premier also had a brief Saturday when railwaymen went on strike. Mazowiecki, who spent a year in jail after the Communist authorities imposed martial law in 1981, faces the delicate task of negotiating with the Soviet Union and the rest of Eastern Europe. His election was the first fundamental break with the Communist monopoly on power in the region established by Soviet dictator Josef Stalin after World War Two.

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Jordan committed to Arab efforts in Lebanon — King

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordan remains committed to resolutions adopted by the Casablanca Arab summit and supports efforts of a tripartite committee appointed by the summit to end the Lebanese conflict, His Majesty King Hussein said Saturday.

The King, speaking at a meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Sharaa, underlined the "need to heal the bloody conflict in Lebanon since it is an Arab country and whatever takes place there affects the security and future of the Arab Nation," the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

The agency said Sharaa conveyed a verbal message from Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to the King and explained to His Majesty Syria's position on the situation in Lebanon. Sharaa, who arrived here earlier in the day on a two-day visit, also conveyed to the King greetings and appreciation from the Syrian president and wished him further success and prosperity for the Jordanian people.

The agency did not give any details of Assad's message but Sharaa said earlier that it dealt

"primarily with Lebanon."

Petra said the audience was attended by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Deputy Prime Minister Marwan Al Qasem as well as an official delegation accompanying Sharaa. Sharaa's visit to Jordan came amid signs that the Soviet Union was trying its hand to defuse the tension there and stabilise a ceasefire between Syrian-backed Lebanese militias and forces loyal to army commander Michel Aoun, who is vying for power with a Syrian-supported civilian government led by Salim Al Hoss.

The Soviet moves came after the tripartite Arab committee said earlier this month that its efforts to end the 14-year-old Lebanese conflict had reached a "dead end." The panel, comprising Morocco's King Hassan II, Saudi Arabia's King Fahd Ibn

Abdul Aziz and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, is reportedly resisting international pressure to revive its efforts.

Prime Minister Sharif Zaid, in an earlier meeting with Sharaa Saturday, reviewed the situation in Lebanon, Petra said.

"The two sides reaffirmed their support for collective Arab action to end the Lebanese crisis which constitutes a weak point in pan-Arab security," Petra said.

"It is prerogative of Arab countries to find solutions for their own problems through coordination of positions in a manner that would safeguard higher national interests," Petra quoted the two sides as agreeing.

Sharif Zaid and Sharaa also discussed Jordanian-Syrian relations and moves to develop cooperation in all spheres. Qasem attended the meeting.

Sharaa told reporters after the meeting at the Prime Ministry that the talks "focused on the situation in Lebanon and we had an extensive and broad exchange of views on that matter."

Assad's message to the King, which he conveyed later Saturday, dealt with "bilateral relations, regional developments and primarily the situation in Lebanon," he said.



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday meets with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa (Petra photo)

Phone charges to go up from Sept. 1

AMMAN (Petra) — Charges for international telephone calls will go up by nearly 40 per cent as of Sept. 1 as a result of the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar against the U.S. dollar, an official statement issued by the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) said Saturday.

The statement said the current rates were set in 1986 when the U.S. dollar was sold at the rate of 346 fils and the increase was warranted by the rise in the rate of exchange of the dollar, which rose to 579.4 fils in August 1989.

It said that the whole issue was debated by the TCC board in detail before a decision was made to calculate charges in accordance with the following rates:

— 500 fils per minute for daytime call and 350 fils for nighttime calls made to Syria, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and Egypt.

— 750 fils a minute during the day and 525 fils during the night for calls to North Yemen,

Tunisia, Algeria, Djibouti, Sudan, Somalia, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, South Yemen and Lebanon.

— JD 1.2 per minute during the day and 840 fils during the night for calls to Spain, Italy, Ireland, Britain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Portugal, Poland, Turkey, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, France, Finland, Luxembourg, Malta, West Germany, East Germany, Norway, Austria, Hungary, and Holland.

— JD 1.65 per minute during the day and JD 1.55 at night for calls to Yugoslavia, Albania, and Iceland.

— JD 2 per minute during the day and JD 1.4 during the night for calls to the Soviet Union, Greenland, the United States and Canada.

— JD 2.5 per minute during the day and JD 1.75 during the night for the rest of the world.

The statement said that calls will be considered night calls when made between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m.

Soviet envoy seeking to stabilise ceasefire — Hoss

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Soviet Union, playing a new role as Lebanon peacemaker, is seeking to stabilise a shaky ceasefire and revive Arab League mediation, Salim Al Hoss, head of the civilian government in West Beirut, said Saturday.

"The Soviet Union is not trying to monopolise the solution as many others who have sponsored abortive initiatives in the past," Hoss told Reuters in his apartment in west Beirut.

"The Soviet endeavour is aimed at achieving a limited goal which is to enable the Arab League committee to resume its work and therefore clear the road for an Arab solution," Hoss said.

Soviet envoy Genadi Tarasov, a personal representative of Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, was back in Damascus Saturday after talks with both sides.

Diplomats in Damascus and political sources in Lebanon say Moscow thinks the best way to consolidate a ceasefire would be to stop arms supplies to both sides.

Syria and its Lebanese allies have been besieging east Beirut and the Christian heartland north of it for five months to prevent weapons reaching army commander Michel Aoun. Massive bombardments have killed 760 people on both sides.

Hoss said Moscow supported Arab summit calls for a ceasefire,

an end to all sieges and political reforms.

Moscow was trying to "remove the obstacles that the Arab committee faced to allow it to resume its activity," Hoss said.

The Arab League committee — Morocco, Algeria and Saudi Arabia — declared in July that its mediation efforts had reached a dead end.

A police spokesman said the clashes had "diminished noticeably" since the Soviet Union started a bid to secure a stable ceasefire.

The spokesman said four hours of pre-dawn shelling subsided into intermittent exchanges of machine-gun fire and mortar rounds across the city's dividing green line after 7 a.m. (0400 GMT).

He said two people were killed and nine were wounded in the artillery duel, which also targeted ports north of the city and gun emplacements in west Beirut.

The spokesman said "the intensity of the clashes has diminished noticeably" since Tarasov arrived Wednesday.

The Soviet Union stepped up its diplomatic activity in the Middle East this year, sending Shevardnadze on an extensive tour of regional capitals and reaching a trade and arms deal with Iran.

A political source said the Soviet Union was "very serious" in its new Lebanese undertaking.

"They are qualified to succeed where others failed because of their good relations with the three regional powers struggling in Lebanon — Iraq, Syria and Iran," the source said.

Tarasov is the first high-ranking envoy the Kremlin has sent to Lebanon during 14 years of war.

He was in Beirut Thursday and Friday, meeting Aoun and Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir on the Christian side and Hoss on the Muslim side.

"We strongly believe there is no military solution, only political ones. We think it's high time to give peace a chance," he told reporters.

Before going to Lebanon he met Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa in Damascus.

A Syrian official said they agreed on "the necessity of forming a committee to monitor the ceasefire, lift the blockades and prevent the entry of arms supplies to the Lebanese parties."

The semi-official Syrian newspaper Al Thawra said Saturday that peacekeepers were waiting their time unless their proposals included reforming Lebanon's Christian-dominated pre-civil war political system and forcing Israel to withdraw from the border territory it controls in the south.

A source close to Aoun, speaking to the AP on condition of anonymity, said the general told Tarasov of his "full readiness to cooperate with the Soviet effort"

Bush, Mitterrand discuss Lebanon

KENNESBUNKPORT, Maine (R) — President George Bush discussed the crisis in Lebanon with French President Francois Mitterrand by telephone Saturday, the White House announced. The spiritual leader of Lebanese pro-Israeli militants has said a French naval force off Lebanon will be attacked if it intervenes in the fighting and the lives of some American hostages have been threatened. "President Bush discussed his general concern about the general situation in Lebanon," the White House said in a statement issued in Maine, where Bush is spending a three-week holiday. "The two presidents commented on the U.N. ceasefire in Lebanon and agreed to keep the U.N. spotlight on the problem," the White House said. Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah has accused France, which has assembled a fleet of five ships in the Eastern Mediterranean, of taking sides in the Lebanese conflict. France, however, insists the ships are there to provide aid and remain nearby in the event some 7,000 French citizens have to be evacuated. Bush has said he is satisfied the presence of French ships is a justified precaution, even though it has prompted threats against the lives of some American hostages.

King expresses confidence in RJ

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday expressed confidence in Royal Jordanian (RJ) officials and employees and said that he looks forward to further progress and development in performance and in drawing up policies which ensure further progress.

During a meeting he chaired Saturday of the RJ board of directors in the presence of Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, the King said he looks forward to modernising the RJ fleet, expanding training, and attracting technically qualified people so as to attain a high standard.

The King voiced support for the new RJ administration and wished the employees continued success and progress.

The King earlier met at the Prime Ministry with Sharif Zaid.

Visits Special Forces unit

Also Saturday, King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Saturday visited the Command of the Special Forces and listened to a briefing on its training exercises and activities.

The King expressed pleasure for meeting with the conscripts and stressed that the Armed Forces "has the honour to continuously be ready to perform the national duty in all the Arab Homeland and to shoulder the responsibilities for the generations to come so as to continue the process of construction."

During the visit, the King attended the graduation of one of the Special Forces units which included His Royal Highness Prince Ali Ibn Al Hussein and Prince Faisal Ibn Ra'd.

Commercial banks 'awash with dollars'

AMMAN (R) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), which says its foreign currency reserves now exceed \$500 million, intervened again Saturday to push up the dinar.

The Central Bank announced Friday that it would sell dollars to banks at 700 fils to be sold at no more than 705. Previously Central Bank dollars had been available at 730 fils to be sold to the public at no more than 735.

Dealers said banks were awash with dollars because many Jordanians had moved back into dinars over the past two weeks.

"We don't need the Central Bank's help as our rates are even better than their latest offer," one said.

Banks were trading the dinar at 675/705 fils to the dollar, up from Thursday's 690/730. The dinar has 1,000 fils.

The Central Bank fixed the official rate, used for key imports of food and medicine, fees of Jordanians studying abroad and remittances of foreign agriculture workers at 600.4/606.4 fils, the same as Thursday.

Central Bank Governor

Mohammad Said Al Nabulsi, in remarks published by Al Ra'i newspaper Saturday, said he expected the dinar to stabilise between 600 and 700 fils to the dollar before the end of this year.

He said the foreign exchange reserves stood at more than \$500 million, compared with \$20 million in May.

The increase, mainly due to fresh injections of Arab aid, has enabled the Central Bank to flex its muscles in the market to stabilise the dinar and encourage Jordanians working abroad to send their dollars home through the banking system.

Nabulsi told Al Ra'i that recent monetary and financial moves had eliminated 80 per cent of the black market, where the dinar was trading at 685/695 fils to the dollar Saturday.

He was apparently referring to intervention by the Central Bank over the past three weeks to try to close the gap between the official and bank rates for the dinar.

Officials say the dual exchange rate system will be phased out by November.

Israelis raid W. Bank villages

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops Saturday raided several Arab villages in the occupied West Bank and battled Palestinian youths who built makeshift barricades on a central Gaza City street and hurled stones from rooftops, Palestinian reports said.

A former military governor of the West Bank, meanwhile, warned that the situation in the occupied lands could deteriorate and that the Palestinians may employ more violent means unless there is a progress in the stalled peace process.

A young Palestinian man died in hospital Saturday after being shot by Israeli soldiers during a clash in the occupied Gaza Strip, Palestinians said.

Ali Mohammad Sha'abam, 23, was shot by troops combatting stone-throwers in Jabaliya refugee camp Friday.

His death raised the toll in the 21-month-long Palestinian uprising to at least 612 Palestinians. Hospital officials said troops also shot and wounded two Palestinians during clashes in Gaza after four people were injured in scattered overnight protests.

In Nabulus in the West Bank, residents said they heard gunshots and smelt teargas from a prison where Palestinians are held.

A Palestinian-owned shop in Arab Jerusalem was burned down, apparently because the owner was suspected of collaborating with the Israeli occupation authorities, Israeli Radio said.

Arab journalists said soldiers raided at least three villages in the Ramallah area to arrest suspected uprising activists.

The army also clamped a cur-

few on the village of Idna near the West Bank town of Hebron after villagers there burned several houses owned by an alleged pro-Israeli collaborator and his relatives, reports said.

Palestinian journalists reported from Gaza City the clash on the Omar Al Mukhtar street lasted for at least one hour. They said Arab youths blocked the street with stone barricades and burning tyres and threw stones at soldiers from rooftops.

Israel's former West Bank governor, reserve General Ephraim Sneh, who spoke on Israeli radio, said the army was "continuing the search for a magic solution, but the problem is that there is no such solution apart from the political one."

In the absence of any movement in the political process, Sneh warned, "negative processes in the field would strengthen and the radical voices among the Palestinians outside would also increase."

Egyptian condemnation

Egypt Saturday condemned Israeli expulsion orders against four Palestinians and said such measures did not help peace efforts in the Middle East.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali summoned Israeli Ambassador Shimon Shamir to deliver the protest and demand a prompt end to expulsions, Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources said in Cairo.

"The continued oppressive practices by Israeli authorities against the Palestinian people and expulsion of Palestinian leaders from the West Bank and Gaza are crimes," Ghali told reporters.



A Colombian army officer walks out of a bathroom lined with Italian marble at the confiscated home of a suspected leader of a drug cartel.

Bogota reports major advance in battle against drug cartels

BOGOTA (Agencies) — Army officials say they arrested the son of a reputed cocaine baron in a shootout and recovered piles of secret financial documents about the operations of Colombia's most powerful drug cartel.

Military officials also confirmed that they had arrested a man alleged to be reputed cocaine kingpin Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha's chief accountant, Luis Fernando Galeano Berrios.

The army disclosed the arrests and discovery of the documents after hundreds of Colombian judges demanded more protection from drug cartel assassins.

The country's powerful cocaine barons threatened Friday to kill 10 judges for every drug trafficking suspect extradited to the United States.

The United States, meanwhile, announced it was sending \$65 million worth of helicopters, weapons and other equipment to help Colombia in its anti-drug offensive.

And Colombian President Virgilio Barco declared he was "willing to go as far as is necessary" to wipe out the illegal drug cartels and hired assassins trying "to destabilise democratic institutions and create panic."

"Those who have declared war on Colombia must know that the Colombian people have taken up the challenge. They must know we will not retreat before any

danger," Barco said in an unscheduled speech, broadcast nationwide on television and radio.

In Colombia, army officials disclosed they had confiscated secret financial documents from Rodriguez Gacha's estate, called "Chiguagua."

The estate was seized Thursday by the military as part of the government's week-old campaign against drug traffickers. The crackdown was launched after presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galan was assassinated a week ago.

Authorities seized the estate after a gunbattle with Rodriguez Gacha's son and two nephews, and seven of his bodyguards, the army officers told reporters of the Bogota daily newspaper El Tiempo who visited the site Friday.

The officers said the reputed drug baron's son, Freddy Rodriguez Gacha, was among those arrested after the gunbattle at the estate.

The Israeli reserve officer reportedly involved in the affair denied the reports Friday and said he served as an instructor for a group of cattle breeders fighting leftist guerrillas.

"I trained a group of farmers who defended themselves against terrorist organisations, mostly the group called M-19, a guerrilla group with the goal of turning Colombia into Cuba or Nicaragua," Yair Klein said on the

national television.

A senior Defence Ministry official said Friday Klein was likely to be questioned about his activities in Colombia. Klein returned to Israel Friday from the United States, the television said.

The daily Yediot Ahronot said police are considering detaining Klein for questioning on the basis of information received from Interpol and foreign police agencies.

A police spokesman refused to confirm or deny the report.

The United States has been in contact with Israel over reports that Israeli nationals are training Colombian drug cartel hit squads and is satisfied that Israel is committed to prosecuting such mercenaries, the State Department said Friday.

"Our embassy in Tel Aviv has been in touch with the Israeli government about these reports," State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said.

One of the trainers shown on the NBC news report was heard speaking Hebrew and Israeli media identified one of the men on the tape as an Israeli army reserve: colonel who heads a defence and security consulting firm.

"We're happy that (the Israeli government) has made these commitments to investigate fully and try to prosecute anybody they can," Boucher said.

35 killed in Sri Lankan village

COLOMBO (R) — Gunmen killed about 35 people in a remote village in north-central Sri Lanka Friday night in the latest flareup of violence on the island, residents said.

They said women and children were among those killed in the attack at Panchikulame in the Anuradhapura district, 180 kilometres northeast of Colombo.

Residents, speaking by telephone from Amradhapura town, could not give details. Military sources confirmed there were killings in the village, but said they had no other information.

The attack brought to 55 the number of political murders on the island during the 24 hours up to Saturday morning. Military sources said bodies of two people killed earlier were found during the period.

Security sources blame the left-wing People's Liberation Front (JVP) for most of the killings. Opposition critics say unidentified terror squads backed by the security forces are responsible for the murders.

The front, made of mostly of youths from the

majority Sinhalese community, is waging a violent campaign to overthrow the government of President Ranasinghe Premadasa.

A government statement said Saturday three policemen and two civilians were killed when a rebel landmine blasted their jeep in the north-central Kurunegala district.

Three other policemen were killed and two injured when rebels fired at their jeep at the entrance to a game reserve at Wilpattu Friday in the north-central province, the statement said.

The front has called a five-day general strike from Monday and has people to stay indoors. The front is protesting against the presence of the 43,000 Indian troops who have been stationed in the north of the island under a 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan agreement to end a Tamil separatist revolt.

Premadasa has called for the troops to return home, and Colombo and New Delhi have been negotiating a timetable for the withdrawal. Military sources said a battalion of between 600 and 800 Indian soldiers were to leave Saturday.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Middle East News

'Israelis hard-line in short-term, but dovish in long-term'

ACCORDING to a Jaffee Centre study to be officially released next week, Israelis are becoming more dovish on long-term policy issues such as territories for peace, but more hawkish on matters of immediate policy.

The report — entitled Public Opinion in Israel and the Intifada: Changes in Security Attitudes 1987-88 — also concludes that the intifada has made Israelis more "realistic" about the options available to them, with the result that fewer people said they would encourage the Arabs to leave the country.

According to Tel Aviv University political scientist Asher Arian, co-author of the study — which derived from an ongoing Jaffee Centre study on public opinion and national security — the results are especially accurate because of its "unusual methodology": the same sample of 416 people was asked the same questions on two occasions a year apart (December 1987 and December 1988).

"We were in the field the very first day of the intifada," Arian says. "Because of the uniqueness of the timing, we decided to make an effort to return to the sample."

This largely eliminates the normal considerations of sampling error, and renders significant even minute changes in opinions, he said.

The report found a hardening of attitudes on issues that had short-term implications. Support for negotiations with the PLO, which Arian defines as a short-term issue, dropped from 37 per cent in 1987 to 32 per cent in 1988. Opposition to an international peace conference rose from 37 per cent to 45 per cent.

In 1987, 27 per cent chose increased military strength rather than negotiations, as the best means to prevent another war with the Arab states; in 1988, this figure rose to 38 per cent. The percentage of those who favour security interests over the rule of law rose dramatically, from 28 per cent to 48 per cent.

But in the areas of policy which Arian views as having more long-term importance, Israelis appeared to be adopting more dovish views. The percentage favouring territorial compromise rose from 44 per cent in 1987 to 48 per cent a year later. Those who would agree to the establishment of a Palestinian state in the territories increased from 20 per cent to 25 per cent.

Arian also claims that Israelis have become more "realistic" as a result of the intifada. Evidence of this, he says, is the decrease in the proportion who expressed "definite" support for "encouraging the Arabs to leave." This figure dropped from 35 per cent to 27 per cent.

The political impact of the intifada, however, benefited the Likud. Arian and co-author Rafael Ventura devised a five-point policy scale measuring political attitudes and measuring the shifts to the right or left. This scale showed shifts towards the right ("hawkishness") in virtually every category into which the sample was broken down.

The Labour voters in 1988 were among the only groups that experienced a moderation of views. "This shows the impossibility of Labour's position," says Arian. "The party's voters were a group that ran totally counter to the dominant trends in society."

Interestingly, another group that did not shift to the right was composed of respondents who reported having served in the territories in the intervening year — whose attitudes remained unchanged. "If you look at the shift in the population, they actually can be seen as having become more moderate in a relative sense," Arian notes. "So it's certainly incorrect to say that service in the territories makes you more hard-line."

Especially significant, says Arian, is the finding that the most radical hawkish shift occurred among respondents who said they believed Israel still faced a very high degree of external threat.

These people, he says, will require quite considerable "confidence-building" measures before they support any policy that is perceived as "conciliatory."

Between 1987 and 1988, the proportion of those defining themselves as hawks increased from 33.3 per cent to 41.4 per cent. Doves decreased slightly, from 32.5 per cent to 31.3 per cent. The middle decreased from 34.2 to 27.2.

"The decline of the middle in this kind of sample is very significant," Arian says. "But you see the ability of the political system to allow polarization and at the same time use a sort of centripetal mechanism to stabilise, and that's the national unity government."

The unity government's policies, says Arian, are "something these data indicate the public wants, understand and will support."

Arian is willing to speculate that the process of moderation on long-term issues will continue. "It's persistent and quite consistent, not a major shift in the wind, but a creeping process which is significant."

— The Jerusalem Post

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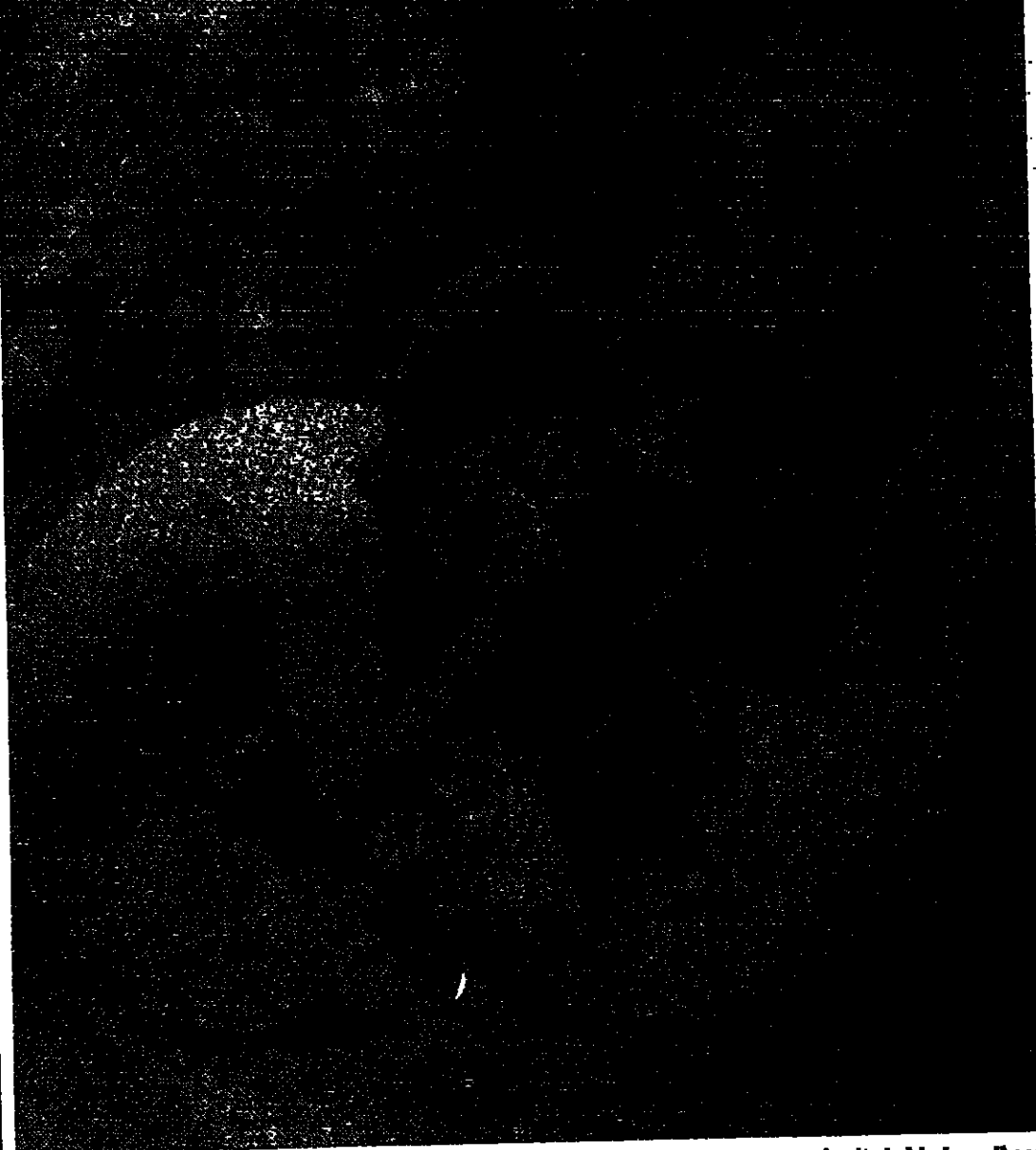
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— The Jerusalem Post



IT'S A CLOSE SHAVE: Two Lebanese militiamen crouch to shave while a comrade sits behind sandbags with automatic rifle covering them Sunday on west Beirut's demarcation line.

French drive on Lebanon has mixed results

By Nicholas Kotch
Reuters

PARIS — France's risky attempt to end the fighting in Beirut has so far failed to intimidate Syria into submission or produce a convincing display of solidarity from the United States and its European allies.

The precise objectives of a French navy fleet dispatched to Lebanon in haste remain hazy and the international campaign to revive Arab League mediation has made no perceptible progress.

But French officials pointed Friday to two achievements since President Francois Mitterrand launched his "save Lebanon" initiatives Aug. 12.

Artillery bombardments in Beirut have lessened and the Soviet Union has overcome its reluctance to take a direct part in the search for a ceasefire and a peaceful settlement.

French and foreign analysts were puzzled by the future role of the naval task-force, whose mission was described by Mitterrand last Wednesday as solely humanitarian.

Syria, Iran, Algeria and Muslim leaders in Lebanon have all decried what they consider old-style gunboat diplomacy to give succour to army commander Michel Aoun.

"We would rather prefer France to cancel this operation and fold this page," Salim Hoss, acting prime minister of one of the two rival Lebanese cabinets and considered a moderate by French officials, said Friday.

On Wednesday Mitterrand replied to a naked threat from one of the shadowy groups holding Western hostages when he said no outsider could dictate French policy.

But 24 hours later the French fleet in the Eastern Mediterranean was scaled down from eight vessels to five.

"Syria's friends were bound to take that as a signal that the French were giving in," one senior European Community (EC) diplomat commented.

Britain has been the coolest of France's allies in the 12-nation EC about the sending of the task-force, diplomats said. Although France has declared that it enjoys the unanimous backing of its partners, no formal statement to that effect has been made.

"If there were a joint statement it would not go as far as France would like because of the reluctance of the British. They have always been sceptical about French policy in Lebanon," one European envoy commented.

According to French official sources the limit of the fleet's potential role would be to evacuate French nationals from Beirut if the fighting deteriorated.

But Pierre Darcourt, defence specialist for the daily Le Figaro, wrote Friday that the task-force, led by the aircraft carrier Foch, was not strong enough to silence hostile fire during a full evacuation.

Such a mission would in any case involve breaking the Syrian blockade of Aoun-controlled ports, pitching France into a direct military confrontation with Damascus.

Despite the presence in the Mediterranean of the powerful U.S. Sixth Fleet Washington has at no time suggested it was backing the French naval force.

Expressions of support from senior U.S. officials have struck French observers as mealy-mouthed and designed not to jeopardise the lives of American hostages in Lebanon.

The influential daily Le Monde, which is well-informed about Mitterrand's thinking, said Friday the French initiatives had forced Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to back down.

But the retreat may be temporary, until the heat is off, some analysts in Paris fear.

"The trouble is that Syria is confident it has the upper hand in Lebanon in the long term, a one Western diplomat said.

Le Monde, echoing the views of French officials, observed that France had managed to "internationalise" the vicious conflict thanks to its high-profile activity.

It pushed for and obtained a U.N. Security Council declaration calling for a ceasefire. After lobbying by Paris Pope John Paul II openly blamed Syria for the crisis and the Soviet Union joined peace initiatives by sending senior envoy Genadi Tarasov to Lebanon and Syria.

The 12-nation EC agreed, at France's request, to send a delegation to Beirut to assess the prospects of sending and distributing humanitarian aid.

But the key goal — to browbeat the Arab League into tackling the Lebanese imbroglio — appears as distant as ever. The league's mediation committee of Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia abandoned its efforts July 31 and is resisting international pressure to try again.

Israelis turn to disguise, deception

By Paul Taylor
Reuters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israeli forces are increasingly using cloak-and-dagger tactics against activists of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A series of killings of Palestinian activists by troops posing as tourists or Arabs has highlighted the murky battle in the shadows, and the dangers it poses for genuine tourists and journalists.

Soldiers in civilian clothes firing from two Gaza-licensed cars Wednesday night gunned down a masked youth confiscating Israeli-issued identity cards from Palestinian workers in Gaza City, witnesses said. Another activist was seriously wounded.

All workers entering Israel are required to have the magnetic cards. Uprising leaders called on Gazans to boycott work in Israel and turn in the cards to local "popular committees."

Last Saturday troops posing as tourists with back-packs, guide-books and cameras, shot dead a youth stopping a uniformed army patrol in Bethlehem. Dozens of bystanders witnessed the attack.

The incident drew angry protests from Mayor Elias Frej, fearful for the West Bank town's already sagging tourist trade.

Two days later, a Reuters photographer was body-searched and threatened by Palestinian youths who suspected he was a soldier in disguise.

The human rights organisation Amnesty International has urged Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to investigate an incident last month in which plainclothesmen shot dead a wanted activist in the main street of Ramallah in broad daylight.

Military spokesmen have confirmed in each case that security forces, obeying standard firing orders, killed the Palestinians.

Asked to confirm the troops were in disguise, army spokeswoman Ofra Press said: "We will not reveal how we behave operationally."

Since early in the 20-month-old uprising, Palestinians have reported troops posing as Arabs or journalists. The use of command-dead Arab-licence cards for undercover operations has become routine.

In an effort to target the "strike forces" who enforce the directives of the uprising's underground leadership, Israel eased its gun-use rules in June, enabling troops to shoot on sight any masked Palestinian in the Gaza Strip.

Security sources and Palestinians say more than 30 masked activists have been shot and wounded by plainclothesmen in Gaza since then.

The sources said such methods have increased during the bitter struggle over the Gaza ID cards, with youths who collect the plastic cards or prevent workers going to Israel as the main targets.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

PLO seeking WTO membership
PARIS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which is campaigning for international recognition, will seek to become a member of the world body running tourism next week, diplomatic and other sources said Friday. The World Tourism Organisation (WTO), which has 107 member states including Israel, has a six-day meeting starting in Paris Monday. At least 50 tourism ministers are due to attend. A French official organising the meeting said: "We expect they (PLO) will formally make the application Monday. At this stage it is difficult to predict the outcome."

Abu Nidal group to kill 15 "spies"
BEIRUT (R) — A Palestinian group said Friday it would kill 15 "spies" in retaliation for the killing of a senior member in southern Lebanon Wednesday. In a statement published in Beirut newspapers, the Palestinian Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) said: "We will carry out the death sentence against 15 spies belonging to a number of organs linked to such crimes (assassinations)." The FRC, headed by the shadowy figure Sabri Al Banna, code-named Abu Nidal, holds several Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners, some of whom it accuses of spying. The group did not identify the 15 but vowed to punish those who shot dead Rabah Abdul Rahim at the entrance of the Palestinian refugee camp 'Ain Al Hilweh Wednesday. The camp is near the southern port of Sidon.

Somali diplomat in Sweden defects
STOCKHOLM (R) — Somalia's charge d'affaires in Sweden is seeking political asylum in a Western country, the Foreign Ministry said Friday. A spokesman said Sweden had been informed by "certain sources" that the charge, Abdullahi Jama Elmi, had flown to Canada but had no independent confirmation of this. "We know he has left his post and left Sweden," the spokesman said. The Somali embassy said Elmi's whereabouts were unknown. The defection reduces Somalia's official representation in Sweden to a single diplomat with the rank of third secretary. A second secretary at the embassy applied for political asylum in Sweden earlier this year.

French politicians cancel Chad visit
PARIS (R) — A French parliamentary delegation abruptly cancelled an official visit to Chad Friday citing what it called the sudden deterioration in relations between the two countries. The decision was announced by Jean-Pierre Boucheron, chairman of the National Assembly's defence committee, who was to have gone to Ndjamena with six other members of parliament. "The sudden deterioration of Franco-Chadian relations does not create the conditions for a constructive dialogue," Boucheron said in a statement. He did not elaborate and neither the foreign nor defence ministries in Paris were willing to comment. But the cancellation came 48 hours after Chad publicly criticised the commander of France's 1,700-strong military contingent in its former colony. A government spokesman accused Colonel Hugues Poncet Wednesday of allowing French pilots to perform risky manoeuvres above the Chadian capital, endangering the public.

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19:12 Maghreb
20:34 Isha

CHURCHES

PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:40	Programme review
15:45	Children programme
17:10	Football
18:00	News summary in Arabic
18:05	Local programme
18:20	Give Me a Break
18:30	Local programme
19:15	Programme review
19:40	News in Arabic
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:00	Programme review
21:10	Local programme
21:20	Varities programme
21:30	News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO	
17:30	Le monde magique chantal goya
18:30	Loft story
18:30	Perfecto
19:00	News in French
19:15	Douez France
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Varities programme
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Feed up — Biceps & Blunders
21:10	Doc. "Assignment Adventures"
22:00	News in English
22:20	The Equineer

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Relative hot weather conditions will continue to prevail and winds will be northwesterly moderate to light. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

PRAYER TIMES

06:41	Fajr
08:12	(Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:37	Dhuhr
16:14	Asr

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Min./max. temp.	
20 / 34	Amman
26 / 40	Aqaba
21 / 38	Deserts
25 / 39	Jordan Valley

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:	
Dr. Khalil Abdo	795392
Dr. Said Abu Hatab	638642
Dr. Adnan Al Dbi	626660
Dr. Jamil Maraga	770446
First pharmacy	666312
Fendous pharmacy	778336
Al Azara pharmacy	637055
Nairokh pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Smekson pharmacy	637660
IBBID:	
Dr. Ali Al Samhan	(—)
Dr. Tariq Hijawi	(—)
Al Shams pharmacy	(985238)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Tariq Hijawi	(—)
Khalil pharmacy	985417

Emergency	636381
R/T Flight Information	08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport	08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalil Maternity, J. Amn	642816
Alkhalid Maternity, J. Amn	64241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Melhas, J. Amman	606140
Palestine, Shamsat	604714
Shamsat Hospital	669131
University Hospital	649845
Al-Mascher Hospital	66722/23
The Islamic, Abdali	666121/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali	641646
Indian, Al-Mabrouk	777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafish	777111/26
Army, Madra	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
Amal Hospital	674155
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	(09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital	(09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital	(09)986732
IBBID:	
Princess Basma Hospital	(02)275555
Green Catholic Hospital	(02)272775
Al-Nafes Hospital	(02)247100
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	(03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
06:20	Doha (AZ)
12:30	Cairo (MS)
12:30	Mascat, Sharjah, Doha (GF)
14:30	Kuwait (KU)
14:45	Bahrain (add.) (GF)
14:45	Kuwait (KU)
17:25	Jeddah (SV)
19:25	Frankfurt (LH)
21:10	Kuwait (add.) (KU)
22:45	Athens (OA)
01:25	London, Cairo (BA)

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

11:45	Rome (RJ)
12:15	Amman (RJ)
12:45	Istanbul, Ankara (RJ)
13:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
13:30	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
13:45	Cairo (RJ)
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INDUSTRIAL FAIR: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday visited the First Jordanian Industrial Fair, which concluded Saturday, and inspected its various displays. Prince Hassan expressed pride in the role the industrial sector plays in serving and building the national economy. "The most important impression one gets," the Crown Prince said, "is the

determination of the private sector to do the impossible at this difficult stage so as to prove that the Jordanian industries have a future in our Arab region and the world in the 1990s." Prince Hassan called for implementing His Majesty King Hussein's call for the establishment of national rewards and prizes for excellent industries (Petra).

JVA completes all geological tests at Al Wahdeh Dam site

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) has completed all geological tests at the site where Al Wahdeh Dam is to be built, near the Syrian-Jordanian border, and has finalised work on designs for the dam, JVA Director Mohammad Bani Hani said in a statement published Saturday.

The JVA is maintaining contacts with institutions which intend to finance the dam, a project which will take nearly four years to complete, Bani Hani said in a statement published in Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily.

Also, according to Bani Hani, a joint Jordanian-Syrian committee on the Al Wahdeh Dam is due to meet in Damascus in the first half of the coming month to study the diversion tunnel which has been completed at the site.

The 920-metre tunnel will divert water from the Yarmouk River until the \$400 million project has been completed, according to Bani Hani.

The committee last met in Am-

man to discuss the appropriation of land involved in the project, and paid field trips to inspect work on the tunnel.

The construction of the diversion tunnel was completed in April this year, but work continued to reinforce the tunnel with cement. It was carried out by a consortium of a Jordanian-Syrian and Italian companies at a cost of JD 2.5 million.

The meeting in Damascus, Bani Hani said, will mark the end of all types of work on the tunnel and takes place before further steps can be planned for the construction of the dam itself.

The Jordanian government is maintaining contacts with financial institutions for the sake of ensuring a sum of \$350 million in loans to help construct the dam which would provide sufficient water for Jordan's agricultural and domestic use, and electricity to be shared with Syria.

The dam water will be used to irrigate 35,000 dunams of farmland mostly in the Jordan Valley

region, and will provide an estimated 50 million cubic metres of drinking water for Amman and Zarqa.

According to an agreement signed by Jordan and Syria in 1987, Syria will get 75 per cent of the hydroelectric power generated by the dam's power turbines.

Officials briefed on 'quality of life development project'

Queen Noor presides over new NHF project

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday presided over a meeting during which the "Quality of Life Development Project" was presented to cabinet members and other high ranking officials directly involved in integrated development, as well as members of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's (NHF) Executive Committee.

In its first phase, the two-year project will benefit three villages starting with Sweimeh in the southern Jordan Valley at the northeastern tip of the Dead Sea and two other villages. It will then involve 12 other villages which will be networked with the other three villages.

Those present included Minister of Health and Social Development Zuhair Malhas, Education Minister Abdullah Nsour, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan Al Jabr, Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Ibrahim Izziddine and Planning Minister Ziyad Fariz, in addition to Balqa Governor Miqdam Al Khreisha, Jordan Cooperative Organisation Director General Mreiwed Al Tal, Jordan Valley Authority Director Mohammad Bani Hani, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Development Mohammad Sqour

and President of the General Union of Voluntary Societies Abdullah Al Khatib.

The overall developmental objective of the project is to enhance the quality of life of the people in the underdeveloped areas of Jordan through active involvement of community members, the promotion of self-reliance among the people and the encouragement of a positive lifestyle.

Specifically, the project seeks to:

— Identify the segments of the population whose basic needs must be upgraded in order to improve their quality of life.

— Create viable model development schemes in selected communities to be implemented by the people with the support and full partnership of all the concerned sectors of the government.

— Expand successful intersectoral development models to a full coverage of the target segments of the population.

According to the project consultant, Dr. Amom Nandasuta, the organisers will utilise the "basic human needs" concept and approach in social development, which has been tried successfully in Thailand as early as 1983.



Her Majesty Queen Noor presides over a meeting ranking government officials and the NHF executive committee (Petra photo)

Nandasuta, who is World Health Organisation (WHO) consultant and senior health advisor to the Thai Ministry of Health, said that a standard implementation process has been developed as part of Thailand's national socio-economic develop-

ment plans. Nowadays, he added, at least 10,000 villages have implemented development programmes of this nature.

The project will be implemented by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and WHO.

The project was formulated at the direction of Her Majesty Queen Noor following a visit to Sweimeh in January last year, where she met several local community members to acquaint herself with the village's developmental needs.

In presenting the project to the meeting, NHF's communications specialist Dr. Sima Bahous said that to implement the project, the organisers will utilise the "basic human needs" concept and approach in social development.

According to Bahous, so far,

three main activities have been undertaken:

— Consensus building and social preparation in relation to the new concept and strategy among the facilitating agencies — policy makers, administrators and technocrats.

— Selection and training of an intersectoral technical team of development workers at the district level (South Shuneh).

— A survey of basic needs carried out by the people themselves using those indicators which have been developed by the intersectoral technical team.

At the same time, she said, a village development fund will be established with WHO support and contributions by the village people themselves. The fund will be responsible to support community-based development projects.

Aqaba vocational centre turns out 164 apprentices

AQABA (Petra) — A vocational training centre in Aqaba has turned out 164 apprentices who received one to two-year training courses in a number of specialisations much in demand in Jordan, according to Mr. Talal Adahleh, the centre's director.

He said the trainees had courses in auto mechanics, wood work, interior decoration, electricity, refrigeration and train locomotive mechanical work.

The centre also provides a three month training course to workers in various businesses in

Aqaba, Radaideh noted. He said the centre, which is operated by the vocational training corporation, has now opened courses for hotel management and car driving because of the need by the local market.

Al Hakama, in Irbid Governorate, a similar training centre turned out 283 apprentices who completed three month training courses. VTC Director Burhan Shreideh, who attended the ceremony, distributed diplomas to the graduates.

ACC states to discuss coordination in industry

ALEXANDRIA (Petra) — Chambers of industry in the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries will meet here Monday to discuss measures that would help coordinate matters in industrial affairs and boost investments in industrial projects.

A spokesman for the ACC, which groups Egypt, Jordan, north Yemen and Iraq, said that the participants in the three-day meeting will discuss the prospect of establishing a holding company with an initial capital of \$10 million to organise industrial investments in the four countries.

The Amman Chamber of In-

dustry will be represented by a team headed by the chamber's president, Khalid Abu Hassan, who said he will submit a working paper to the meeting proposing a number of measures to ensure integration among the four countries in industry related fields.

One of the main questions to be discussed, Abu Hassan said, is a proposal to establish a higher council for the federations of industry in the four ACC countries.

Another meeting to help the four ACC countries integration process is due to be held in Sanaa, capital of North Yemen, on Sept. 5.

Five robbers jailed

AMMAN (Petra) — Five people have been sentenced by the military court to serve prison terms for their involvement in a plan to commit robberies.

A statement said that Ziyad Salem, Jamal Abdul Aal and Mohammad Abdullah have been given five year prison sentences with hard labour while Saleh

Mahmoud and Waleed Obaidan are to serve for two and a half years in prison with hard labour.

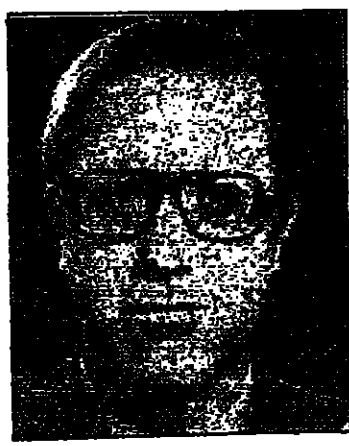
The court also sentenced Mohammad Dineh Zein to a substantial term for embezzling public funds. He is to serve 15 years in prison and to pay a fine of JD 3,335, the amount which he had embezzled through forgery.

Innab to attend Damascus fair

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Innab will travel to Damascus Monday to attend the formal opening of the Jordanian pavilion at the Damascus International Fair.

A spokesman for the Jordan Commercial Centres Corporation (JCCC) said that a total of 150 Jordanian businesses and companies are displaying samples at the fair ranging from chemical products to embroideries and foodstuffs.

The spokesman said that Jordan has been participating in the



Ziyad Innab

annual event for years, displaying products that would help promote the sale of national goods.

Visitors to the fair are not allowed to buy directly but can place orders for the various products through contacting the producers.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

FUEL REVENUES: The Cabinet, in its weekly session Saturday, approved the grant of JD 300,000 from fuel revenues to the joint municipal councils. This sum of money will be used in bolstering the budgets of these councils so as to upgrade their standard of maintenance and operational services. (Petra).

MASADH RECEIVES IRAQI ENVOY: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masadh Saturday discussed with Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Nouri Ismail bilateral relations. (Petra).

BOOSTING PRIVATE SECTOR OPERATIONS: The United Nations Development programme (UNDP) is co-sponsoring a two-day symposium in Jordan on means of boosting the operations of the private sector in the country. Dr. Ali Atiq, the UNDP resident representative here, and Amman Chamber of Industry President Khalid Abu Hassan met Saturday to discuss arrangements for the symposium and training seminars and courses which could be organised in conjunction with the UNDP to promote the private sector's activities. According to UNDP sources, the symposium, which will open on Sept. 3, is to be attended by representatives of the private and the public sectors and the federation of Jordanian chambers of industry and trade. (Petra).

IRAQI TEAM IN AQABA: An Iraqi delegation representing the Ministry of Transport Saturday visited Aqaba Port and was briefed on the operations at the port and economic projects in the city. Topics related to transportation of goods destined for Iraq will be discussed during the delegation's two-day visit. (Petra).

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

- * An art exhibition by Jordanian artists Khaled Ghawanmeh and Abdullah Kamaleh, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Maari at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- * An art exhibition by Jordanian artist 'Adnan Al Hibi at the Royal Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

- * A lecture, Arabic, on "Water situation in Al Disl water basin, south Jordan" by Jamil Al Rashdan at the Professional Associations Complex — 7:00 p.m.

FILM

- * A feature film entitled "Raging Bull" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

In the occupied territories 'it is criminal to be Palestinian'

Cooperatives — the infrastructure of a future Palestinian state

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — One of the major challenges that the Israelis face in their relentless effort to quell the 21-month-old Palestinian uprising is the close-knit cooperative movement that has sprung up in almost every corner of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and often seen as the "infrastructure of a future Palestinian state."

The cooperative movement, "the heart of the intifada," is obviously the Palestinian reply to the occupation power's systematic measures to strangle the economy of the occupied territories. At the same time, it certainly has made a major contribution towards creating a political atmosphere conducive to a peaceful solution to the conflict.

These are the impressions of a group of young Americans who visited the occupied territories and gained firsthand information on the inside workings of the phenomenon.

"These cooperatives really seem to be the heart of the intifada in terms of getting Israel to a position where it has to deal with what's going on... instead of shooting at people," according to Mike Fischer, one of a six-member American student team. "The cooperatives are setting the conditions to make that possible."

The concept of self-help and interdependence against a common foe, as reflected in the cooperatives, is one of the most natural features of the intifada, and it has survived every form of Israeli onslaught, according to many Palestinians who have close links with the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Fischer, an English literature graduate student at the University of Michigan and editor of a Detroit-based magazine called "Against the Current" said, one of the major achievements of the cooperatives is employment of Palestinians who depend upon daily earnings but face the problems of sustained curfews, general strikes and violence as well as Israeli restrictions.

"A great number of people who used to work inside the green line (pre-1967 demarcation line) have been able to find jobs in these cooperatives," he said. "The standard of living has dropped but jobs are available."

"Even in Gaza, the hell that it is, we saw a 30-dunum tonnage cooperative which employs many of the people who used to work in Israel. This could be a symbol of the entire intifada. The cooperative, surrounded by hell, still manages to help people as a separate entity. This bodes well for the future," Fischer added.

Obviously the Gaza cooperative is symbolic of the "infrastructure of a future Palestinian state."

Another member of the delegation, Betsy Esch, also of the University of Michigan, voiced similar views. "In the U.S., the intifada is repre-



The intifada is not just stone-throwing

sented as stone-throwing. It was very exciting for us to see the effectiveness of things like the cooperatives that have been organised in many of the villages; the women's committees, tax resistance, the boycotts and strikes against Israeli products were inspiring for all of us."

"What impressed me most was the comprehensiveness of the intifada." How effective it was and how every person, regardless of age or status, was involved in it and supported it one hundred per cent," Esch, the opinion page editor of the university's newspaper, "The Daily," added.

The main goal of the group's visit — organised by the Ann Arbor, Michigan, branch of the Palestine Solidarity Committee (PSC) — was to gain first-hand information on the workings of the intifada, as the Palestinian struggle and the question of Palestinian statehood have become more important in the wake of the uprising, which shook the status quo of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"In the face of the powerful Zionist lobby on our campus we thought it was very important to find out the truth and have a very articulate position on the Palestinian question, so we can represent the issues as clearly and accurately as we can," Esch explains.

"That is very important for us at this crucial time as students and activists," she told the Jordan Times. Both Fischer and Esch were interviewed by the newspaper during the group's stopover in Amman before returning to the United States.

Another objective of the mission was to try to establish a sister university relationship with Bir Zeit University near Ramallah in the West Bank. But the proposed project did not meet with much success. "It is very difficult," Fischer said. "We were prepared to go and talk to the Bir Zeit Student Council... but there was only one member of the student council who was not incarcerated."

"We met with him and we discussed the things we can do but it is very difficult for Bir Zeit to get any help from the outside. The Israelis make it as hard as possible for money, supplies or equipment to come in," Fischer said.

The delegation intends to follow up on the sister university project after their return to Michigan. One of the ideas that has already been floated is sending a Bir Zeit student to study at the University of Michigan. The group is also studying the possibility of doing solidarity work in the U.S. to highlight the problems of education in the occupied territories.

Once the group returns to the United States an important question that arises is what the delegation intends to do to inform other Americans about the plight of the Palestinians.

According to Fischer, the members' diverse backgrounds will allow them to develop "the strategy where instead of concentrating on the issue and of itself, we force other people, who tend to ignore it, to make the connection between what is happening in the occupied territories with what is happening with issues they struggle for."

The connection, for example, between the way in which Palestinians walking down the street can be stopped, harassed and taken away and the way in which the same thing happens to blacks in Detroit every single day," Fischer explains.

"These are the ways we can set our own agenda instead of allowing the Zionist lobby to constantly set the agenda for us and tell us what is semitic or anti-semitic, what is right or wrong."

As opinion page editor of the university newspaper, Esch faced many difficulties because she allowed the Palestinian position on different issues to surface in the newspaper, but she says she has not been deterred in her efforts to "tell the truth."

"I feel very strongly that none of us are going to back down," she asserted. "I think its really intimidating when you

have hundreds of people outside your door calling you a 'Jew-hater' but if the intifada has done anything for me and all of us it was to make us angry enough about what is happening and to take that anger and turn it into positive energy and really fight this.... There is a great deal of legitimate criticism which has been stifled completely because people have allowed themselves to be intimidated by this force. Out of respect for the people of the intifada we have to tell the truth."

The American delegation, one of many that have crossed the King Hussein Bridge on similar missions during the 21 months of the revolt, stresses the importance of human contact as a means of understanding the intifada and the overall Palestinian question.

The delegation had different experiences in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip despite the fact that both areas are equally involved in the uprising.

"I think in Gaza things are a bit different than in the West Bank," Esch recalled. "Most people have said that being in Gaza is being in the heart of the intifada, but we had a different experience because conditions were so repressive when we were there. Most of Gaza was under curfew so we were unable to meet with people. We really saw Gaza through a car window."

"It wasn't as powerful as being in the West Bank where we went to the villages, met with people, saw the poverty, the soldiers, the barracks, and the bunkers that were on every corner," she added.

The group saw for themselves the daily human rights violations Palestinians have to endure.

The most vivid experience came when the group's guide was detained and his identification card taken for asking an Israeli police officer a question.

"We were stunned that this person was detained for doing absolutely nothing," Esch said. "We saw that it is 'criminal' to be a Palestinian."

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

Moving with confidence

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

MONEYCHANGERS offices were closed on Feb. 8, 1989 to put an end to speculation and capital flight, and to allow a return to fixed exchange rate after four months of floating.

Since then, things changed drastically and a reconsideration of the whole subject became in order. In fact the governor of the Central Bank recently announced that the decision to re-activate the moneychangers was subject to a thorough study.

However, so far, it seems the Central Bank did not make up its mind regarding this vital subject. The feeling is that since things are now going the bank's way, it would be risky to do something major that might upset the current favourable trend.

This position is quite understood, but it should not prevent the finalisation of the study as early as possible, because favourable trends need continued support, and the CBJ should take some calculated risk in this regard. Any decision or policy is no more than a response to a certain situation and to available information. If circumstances were altered, and new facts emerged to substantially change the situation, one need not hold on to previous positions.

I shall try to summarise some of the new facts and circum-

stances that call for a real re-evaluation and justify re-opening of the moneychangers offices to resume operation under a new law that avoids over or under regulation.

The decision to close moneychangers was taken when it was clear that moneychangers were the means and instruments of speculation against the dinar, that the dinar's exchange rate dropped to 620 fils to the dollar. Now, in the absence of authorised moneychangers, the dollar is selling in the free market at 15 per cent higher, an evidence that the decision is not serving its purpose.

We thought at the time, that the closure of moneychangers offices will be accompanied by a crack down on black market, treating it strictly as a security hazard to be dealt with accordingly, and not left to the Central Bank. In such a situation, we expected no black market to emerge before three months, a good breathing time to allow the government to move and re-arrange the stage. This expectation did not materialise and the black market flourished and became a reality in a matter of days. Black market is of course more dangerous than the authorised moneychangers. The moneychanging deals are there as everybody knows. They

were previously conducted through well-known offices, with books and records, by authorised dealers, who provided information and paid taxes. Such deals are currently conducted under the ground. The activity is being left for anyone to practise behind the back of the law and the specialised institutions.

The authorised moneychangers are dealing at large in dinars, in Jerusalem, Nabhus, Jeddah, Bahrain, Dubai etc. The embargo is only imposed on moneychangers in Jordan, which would be able to compete and attract capital and foreign currencies if they were allowed to do so. The banning of moneychangers in Jordan is not serving any purpose except stifling business and foreign exchange outside.

At one time we worried about capital flight or loss of confidence in the dinar. There is nothing to worry about now as the damage has already been done. So why not open the door to capital movement and exchange rates until we reach a real stability level, determined by market forces rather than an artificial rate that we lack the means to protect. The current healthy situation in the market since the beginning of August is a golden opportunity to move with confidence.

On the right track

DEVELOPMENTS in the last three weeks which saw a gradual but steady elimination of a major part of the black market in foreign currency and the rise in the Jordanian dinar's value against the American dollar are a watershed. The implementation of a surefooted, well-calculated intervention strategy by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has mostly paid off, as evident in reports that commercial banks which were clamouring for foreign currency only last month are today reporting that they no longer need to take up CBJ offers to sell them their needs. If anything, they have turned sellers to the CBJ. It is expected that the two-tier exchange system will soon be abolished and a unified rate will be set.

Simultaneous with its intervention policy, the CBJ has also been building its foreign currency reserves, raising it to about \$500 million, thanks mainly to Arab aid; no mean feat when compared with the figure of \$20 million only a few months back.

On the whole, the picture is bright, when seen in the light of the gloomy predictions of pessimists, who, at one point, even suggested that the dinar will be trading one-to-one to the American dollar. However, the present brightness should not encourage any lowering of our vigil. The national economy is no way out of the woods; we have managed to gain a firm foothold and there is a long way ahead of us. It is certain that the path is strewn with thorns and walking over them is an essential sacrifice everyone of us has to make if we are to hope for improving our national economy. Crises will be heard, but they should only be seen as an occupational hazard, since any delay or stalling on the path will only prolong the process of national recovery. By the same token, it should also be made clear to everyone concerned that any officer-holder seen shirking his or her responsibilities will be held accountable and answerable to charges of undermining the national effort. By and large, the acceptance of such a situation appears to have set in, but it should be thrust home.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily on Saturday tackled the Lebanese situation in the light of a visit to Beirut by the Soviet deputy foreign minister. The Soviet official made it clear to all parties that there can be no military victory for any party in the ongoing civil conflict in Lebanon, and that the Arab League mediation committee set up by the Arab summit in Casablanca remains the only feasible means for settling the issue. Washington has earlier expressed the same view about the situation in Lebanon, thus joining the Soviet Union in its belief that the Arab Nation should bear the main responsibility towards Lebanon, the paper added. It said it is of utmost importance therefore that the warring factions in Beirut understand that cooperation with the Arab League and its mediation committee which will soon resume its mission, is essential and a must, if a peaceful settlement is to be reached. The tragic situation in Lebanon does not tolerate further delays and the warring factions should realise that the time has come for a lasting ceasefire, the paper said. It said that any success for the Arab League in Lebanon would not only enhance the Arab Nation's credibility before the world, but will also prevent any outside forces from intervening in the conflict and achieving their ambitious designs.

A columnist in Al Ra'i draws the attention of the concerned parties and the Jordanian public to the fact that sports events should be given a boosting through support and continued encouragement. Salah Abdul Samad says that supporters for the national basketball team in Damascus were absent from the scene, but nevertheless, it achieved successes over the other teams in the Arab championship. The Ministry of Youth, the sports federations and other concerned parties ought to look into the prospect of dispatching supporters with the national teams wherever they play abroad as is being done by Syria, and other Arab countries when they send their players to hold matches in Jordan, the writer notes. He says that a number of private organisations and individuals have offered to send supporters along with the national basketball team with the purpose of providing encouragement to the team and to help it achieve the best possible results. The paper said that it is still not too late to send supporters for our team in Damascus since this might help it win the cup.

Al Dustoor daily commented Saturday on the outcome of a meeting by the Arab information ministers which recommended collective action in matters related to the Palestine question, the Gulf war and other issues of common concern to the Arab countries. The paper said that the resolutions and recommendations at the end of the meeting clearly reflect the Arab Nation's orientation towards peace and security in the Middle East and in the Gulf region. The final statement expressed the Arab World's true and genuine image, and its determination to achieve peace based on justice, the paper added. It said that ministers expressed their countries' decision to join efforts in countering Israel's conspiracies against the Palestinian people who are waging an uprising in the face of occupation. The ministers urged Arab governments to mobilise all efforts to back the Palestinian people's struggle for freedom and for a permanent and just peace, the paper noted. It said that the Arab information service can and should be exploited to serve the national interests provided it is carefully planned and implemented.

Big powers turned from war to economic rivalry after WWII

By Patrick Worsnip
Reuters

LONDON — The global conflict which broke out 50 years ago next month was a cataclysm that saw the death throes of old empires and the dawn of a new age of stony superpower confrontation. Stunned by a death toll of up to 60 million in World War II and frightened by the invention of the atom bomb, the world's great powers ceased fighting for land and began competing for influence and money as a sour peace settled over the battlefields and devastated cities.

The war, which lasted nearly six years, drained the old European colonial powers and established two countries — the United States and Soviet Union — as military and political superpowers whose rivalry was to shape events for decades.

A third country, China, achieved semi-superpower status by acquiring nuclear weapons in the 1960s, but today has still to win the political and economic weight to match its population of more than one billion.

Britain and France, the great empire builders of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, were forced to grant independence to most of their colonies in the Third World and accept a role as second-ranking powers.

The losers of the war, Germany and Japan, had strict limits placed on their military power and devoted their energies instead to economic growth, a field in which they eventually outstripped their conquerors.

The pattern that emerged from the war — an uneasy balance between a capitalist West and a Communist East, bordered by a host of states to the south struggling to achieve economic viability — has none or less held good since then.

But now there are signs it could be on the verge of change, under the relentless pressure of economics which has forced the Communist countries into a corner and dampened their enthusiasm for world revolution.

Sept. 1, 1939

World War II began when Nazi Germany, seeking to expand its frontiers laid down after the German defeat in the World War I of 1918-19 and having just signed a non-aggression pact with its arch-enemy the Soviet Union, invaded Poland on Sept. 1, 1939. Britain and France declared war on Germany two days later.

In 1940 the Germans occupied much of Western Europe, and the following year turned their attention eastwards, driving deep into the Soviet Union in June, 1941. In December, Germany's ally Japan attacked the American base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, bringing the United States into the war.

The tide turned in 1942. The Soviet army threw back the Germans at Stalingrad and began to advance westwards, while the Western allies' victories in North Africa enabled them to invade Italy in 1943.

Following the Normandy landings of June, 1944, the allies closed in on Germany, which capitulated on May 7, 1945. The American dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki forced the surrender of Japan on Aug. 14.

One result of the war was that the Soviet Union, as well as shifting its borders westwards, took effective control of Eastern Europe by helping to establish Communist governments there.

This laid the foundations of the future "cold war" between East and West. The West Europeans allied themselves with the United

States and Canada in NATO in 1949, while the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact was set up in 1955.

On the economic front, the United States in 1947 offered Europe the Marshall Plan, a \$17-billion aid package which led to the recovery of the Western half of the war-ravaged continent. Moscow obliged its allies to refuse the aid.

Many politicians from both East and West believe that the balance of forces and ideologies has kept the peace between the world's main powers for the past four decades.

150 wars since

But lesser conflicts, often fuelled by the superpowers' quest for world influence, have continued elsewhere. The United Nations has estimated that more than 20 million people may have died in some 150 wars since the end of World War II.

And, 44 years after the war ended, the structure put in place in Europe is looking increasingly shaky.

The Soviet Union and its allies, their economies plagued by bureaucracy, low productivity and widespread shortages, have fallen far behind the prosperity of the West, and some of them are taking increasingly radical reform measures.

Economic reform is leading to political change. The Soviet Union is racked by ethnic unrest.

Poland — where Solidarity activist Tadeusz Mazowiecki was elected prime minister this week in a vote which broke more than 40 years of Communist domination of Eastern Europe — and Hungary are steering towards multi-party democracy. The trend might in the long run query their place in the Warsaw Pact.

In Western Europe, the 12-nation European Community is scheduled to complete by 1992 a single internal market which, with more than 320 million citizens, will be the biggest in the developed non-Communist world.

Already by 1985 the EC accounted for 18.3 per cent of world trade, compared with 17.5 per cent for the United States. Powerful forces are pushing for an ever-increasing economic, and ultimately political, role for EC institutions at the expense of those of member states.

France and — despite lingering trans-Atlantic attachments — Britain now see their role in an EC context.

More importantly, as many West Europeans saw it in the 1950s, the community provided a peaceful focus for the ambitions of Germany, or at least its western part, the ramp of the diminished and divided nation that emerged from the war.

But if the division of Europe is to end one day, this seems certain to resurrect the question of the reunification of capitalist West and Communist East Germany, a prospect that few non-Germans relish at present.

Already West Germany and its former fellow axis power Japan hold the world in awe economically. Where once they sent their armies into neighbouring countries, now they flood them with cars and television sets.

The trade figures of World War II's chief combatants provide an ironic comment on the outcome of the conflict. Last year West Germany ran a current account surplus of \$44 billion, and Japan \$77 billion.

By contrast, the United States had a deficit of \$135 billion and Britain \$24 billion. The Soviet Union claimed a trade surplus of \$3 billion, but its hard currency debt stands at \$44 billion.

Mazowiecki faces tough challenge

By Timothy Heritage
Reuters

WARSAW — Poland's new Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki has taken office with a ringing appeal for solidarity at home and generosity from the country's friends abroad.

Both will be needed in a country where political resentments are still high, food shortages and queues are a part of everyday life and inflation is approaching 200 per cent.

Mazowiecki, a close adviser of Solidarity leader Lech Walesa and editor of the independent trade union's weekly magazine, said on Thursday: "The government cannot solve the situation alone. We must do it together."

"Poland's friends cannot wait until we start drowning. Assistance will serve all Europe. Europe is one, from east to west."

The economy has collapsed since a boom in the 1970s based on large foreign credits. The foreign debt is \$39 billion and Poland cannot even pay the \$3 billion annual interest.

The country desperately needs foreign aid but Mazowiecki may have problems getting it. The

West has reacted cautiously to Solidarity's requests for \$10 billion in funds.

Meanwhile, shortages are growing. People queue daily for staple items like meat, fresh bread and cheese. Shoes, shirts, television sets, matches and razor blades are all in short supply.

Miners, power workers, medical staff, transport and communications workers have staged strikes in protest at food price rises imposed by the Communist authorities on Aug. 1.

Solidarity plans radical changes in economic policy, such as boosting the private sector at the expense of the state.

NEWS ANALYSIS

"I am aware that a great effort is needed by the government to repair the economy," Mazowiecki told parliament on Thursday before being elected.

The main task was to restore economic equilibrium and quash inflation, he said. "Otherwise public unrest could undermine Poland's march to freedom."

But the union has no experience of government and Mazowiecki has to find a balance that will

satisfy the Communists as well as the small United Peasants' Party and the Democratic Party, its allies in a coalition government.

Mazowiecki can expect resistance from Communist appointees installed in government offices and factories across Poland. Solidarity fears they may try to sabotage its reforms.

He acknowledges the danger of upsetting the Communists, who will retain the defence and interior ministries.

"We have to be aware that there is a certain feeling of threat on the part of the other side," Mazowiecki told opposition parliamentary deputies on Wednesday. "We should not let that develop into hostility on account of our acts."

Mindful of the Communists' control of the armed forces and police, he expressed fears of civil war if the party was totally excluded from government.

One of the prime minister's most delicate tasks is to work out a strategy to deal with the Soviet Union and the rest of Eastern Europe.

Seeking to ally Soviet security concerns and the fears of Moscow's conservative allies in the

East Bloc, Mazowiecki says he will not pull Poland out of the Warsaw Pact military alliance.

Trouble could also come from the workers who have been Solidarity's power base since it was formed after a national strike wave in August 1980.

Solidarity will probably try to implement an austerity programme, but has to persuade Poles that better living standards and more goods in the shops will have to be earned.

"The government will do everything to make anti-inflation efforts as painless as possible. But no one can promise that this can be done without hardships," Mazowiecki told parliament.

Jeffrey Sachs, a United Nations economic expert, told the Solidarity daily Gazeta Wyborcza in an interview on Thursday that Poland needed immediately:

- Full convertibility of its currency, the zloty
- Abolition of all subsidies and price regulation
- Fully free exchange of imports and exports
- Suspension of its debt repayments
- Relaxed regulations on setting up foreign and Polish companies in Poland.

Western aid coming

By Jacqueline Frank
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Poland's new government will have to look to the West in its drive for economic renewal but its troubles are likely to worsen before improvements can be made, according to U.N. analysts.

They said Poland's first non-Communist government in more than 40 years will need to be welcomed with open arms from the West. Foreign aid would be essential to help the country which has a foreign debt of \$40 billion and has been unable to pay the interest.

"Poland is going to succeed or not to the extent it becomes part of the European economy," Brookings Institution analyst Jerry Hough told Reuters.

Poland's new prime minister, Solidarity activist Tadeusz Mazowiecki, has made the economic crisis his top priority.

Prices on many goods were allowed to jump to near-market

rates earlier this month, prompting to strikes throughout the country. Food shortages and long queues have become routine. Wage rates have risen but have not kept pace with inflation, which has approached 200 per cent.

Hough says Polish workers will have to swallow some strong medicine through price rises to give industry and farmers incentives to increase production.

Poland should look to Western Europe, particularly its closest neighbour West Germany, for financial aid, for investment capital and for technical assistance, he said.

"It's for Western Europe to say 'if Eastern Europe wants access to our markets we will facilitate it'," he said.

Both Hough and analyst Douglas Seay of the conservative Heritage Foundation agree that the West, particularly Europe, will have to open its markets to Polish exports if Poland is to earn the hard currency to increase

investment in new industries and to buy Western consumer goods.

The transition from a government-controlled economy to a free-wheeling capitalist economy could take five years, Seay said.

The pace will be decided by decisions in the next few months by Solidarity and the Polish Communist Party on the extent to which they want to turn their state-controlled system into a free market.

The analysts said Poland must also lift restrictions on foreign investment, allow its currency to become convertible, and ease investment and tax rules that discriminate against foreigners.

Seay said the economic situation would probably deteriorate in the short term and there could be severe shortages this winter in staple foods such as potatoes, bread, meat and milk.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) officials will discuss Poland's economic needs in a meeting in Poland in September, an IMF official said.

Western governments will be watching Poland to see if there is a specific request for aid. They did not embrace Solidarity leader Lech Walesa's estimate this spring of \$10 billion and decided to wait to see what type of government emerged.

The analysts said it would be difficult for them to reject an aid request from a democratic government, something they had been urging for many years.

A State Department official said the United States will be working with Poland and with European governments to come up with a consolidated plan for economic aid.

The analysts said they did not expect the floodgates to open quickly. "Europe is going to have to contribute at least as much as the United States, or more," Seay said.

President George Bush will send Congress next month a request for \$119 million in economic aid. Some congressmen want more.

Political literature booms in Chile

By Edward Gallardo
The Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile — Political literature is flourishing in Chile as the restrictions on political activity enforced under a right-wing military government come to an end.

Chileans, who a few years ago were starved for political information of any sort, are now feeding their hunger with a wide variety of books, magazines and essays.

After seizing power in a bloody 1973 coup, President Gen. Augusto Pinochet decreed a total ban on political activity. Congress was closed, political parties were disbanded and severe censorship was imposed.

At first, nothing could be printed without prior government approval. Later, the government replaced that policy with a raft of rules prohibiting publication of books or stories that included opposition opinions or contained other material that editors knew would offend the government.

But in recent years, a marked relaxation has taken place. Political activity has become virtually free, and the first presidential elections since 1970 are to be held Dec. 14 to pick a successor to Pinochet.

"The public was thirsty for political information," said Ignacio Gonzalez, a journalist who

wrote "The Day Allende Died," one of the country's most successful books in 1988.

The book is a vivid, extensively researched account of events at the government house on Sept. 11, 1973, the day Pinochet toppled elected Marxist President Salvador Allende, who was killed in the takeover.

Gonzalez's book sold 11,000 copies in three months, a huge figure in a country where a book selling 3,000 copies is considered a bestseller.

"I think people reacted with enthusiasm because of the attraction of learning things that had been forbidden to them for so long," Gonzalez said in an interview.

Even more successful was "The Silent Revolution," a 1987 report on the performance of the Pinochet government, by conservative economist Joaquin Lavín.

The book sold more than 150,000 copies in 11 months, Chile's second-biggest seller ever, Lavín claims. He said it places, second only to "Farewell to the 7th Regiment," a novel based on the 1879 war that Chile won over Peru and Bolivia.

"I just tried to tell Chileans how is the country they live in these days," Lavín told the Associated Press. "The book shows them how their country has changed."

"My book came out at a moment when political activity was stepping up strongly and becoming much freer," he said.

Gonzalez and Lavín believe public interest on political books will survive the end of military rule.

Francisco Mouat, the book critic of Apsí, one of several political magazines which have appeared in recent years, agreed.

"I think this trend will last beyond the restoration of democracy," Mouat said. "I think it will increase and, more important, it will produce better books."

Book sales in recent years seem to support that forecast. Records of the Chilean Book Chamber, a publishing industry organisation, show that for the last year, each week's list of the six top-selling books have included at least three political titles.

Alberto Gosselin, manager of Atlantida, a major Santiago book shop, noted that the boom in sales of political texts has come in spite of a general slump in the book business. He said one reason may be that prices for political books usually are about \$3, compared with more than \$6 for a work of fiction.

Other popular political books in recent years have included "Gen. Prats' Memoirs," by Gen. Carlos Prats, the army commander under Allende who was assassinated in exile in Argentina, published posthumously; "The Buchi Phenomenon," a study on Hernán Buchi, the pro-government presidential candidate in the December election; "Moscow Here," journalist Bernardo de la Maza's account of changes in the Soviet Union; and "Yes or No," a study prior to last October



Fundamentalists anonymous — helping to kick a habit



Dave Hargett and Richard Yao help Christians who have fallen for extreme religious doctrines and want out. (WNL)

By Clare Pedrick

NEW YORK — Dave Hargett was on a Manhattan subway when he was first befriended by a member of a fundamentalist church group which makes it its business to seek out newcomers to the big city and convert them to born-again Christianity.

The initial approach began as a friendly conversation, quickly followed by a casual invitation to a football game. Hargett, new to New York, and as yet with few friends, accepted gratefully. Before long, he found he was spending five nights a week with the evangelical group. Within months he had lost his job — his new friends convinced him he should refuse to work over-time — and had been persuaded to share his small apartment with other church members.

"It was all part of the brainwashing. The idea was that if you lived with other bible-thumpers, you would feel guilty if you did not do all the things that they did," said Hargett, 28. "It also meant you could save money so you had more to give to the church. A lot of people were giving fifty per cent of their salary. I knew one guy who gave close to \$200 a week and his take-home pay was only \$300."

Hargett finally managed to break from the group with the support of Fundamentalists Anonymous (FA), a small but growing organisation which aims to help born-again Christians kick an addiction which, say its founders, is as dangerous and as powerful as alcohol or drugs.

Behind FA is former Wall Street lawyer Richard Yao — himself a one-time fundamentalist — and ex-assistant bond port-

folio manager Jim Luce. Both gave up well-paid jobs to set up a hot-line and counseling service for people trying to break away from a movement which, they claim, aims to control people's lives, breaks up families, milks people of their savings, and has sinister links with extreme right-wing political groups.

Fundamentalist Christianity is based on the belief that the Scriptures are infallible and to be taken literally. Jim Luce, 29, defines it as a "dangerous mind-set." "It sees the world as black and white, good and evil. It's an us-against-them mentality that says we have the truth; you don't. You're going to burn in hell for ever and ever. It's a group that is trying to impose its will on the rest of society," he said.

Added Richard Yao, 33: "Fundamentalists believe, just as they did in ancient Israel, that if you

commit adultery you should be put to death, that women should be put back in the home, and that the church should take over the public schools and run the government."

"What happens to a democracy when tens of millions of people are willing to give up their personal choices to a very authoritarian movement that tells them how to think, how to live, how to vote? It's a very dangerous trend indeed," he added.

Yao, a graduate of Yale School of Divinity, was brought up as a fundamentalist in his native Philippines before breaking with it as a teenager and later moving to the United States. He likens his fundamentalist school in Manila to a type of military camp. "It was extremely harsh and strict," he recalls. "You could be expelled even for doing something as innocuous as listening to country music on the weekend."

In the United States, fundamentalist Christianity is spreading rapidly. Four years ago, figures showed that one in four Americans over the age of 18 considered themselves to be "born-again Christians." Today, that figure has risen to one in three adults.

The movement is also growing fast in other parts of the globe — in Europe, Australia, Latin America and in South East Asia. "It's spreading especially quickly in the Philippines, Taiwan, Singapore and all over East Asia and the Pacific," said Yao. "In South Korea it's the fastest growing religious movement, and has been for twenty years. In Latin America, Roman Catholicism has lost 28 per cent of its members to fundamentalist protestantism."

"When you think about it, it's all part of a move towards fundamentalism: in Israel there is Jewish fundamentalism. Here it's a similar idea, but with Christianity."

Yao and Luce attribute the growth of born-again Christianity to an absence of meaning in people's lives. "Fundamentalism

answers all your questions — about life after death, where to find a girlfriend, and what to do every night of the week. It means they don't have to think for themselves," said Luce. "I have had a call on the hotline from a woman saying that the Lord actually speaks to her each morning and tells her which colour dress to wear."

"Fundamentalism is very attractive right now because it provides structure, meaning and purpose," said Yao. "It's like a package. You don't have to struggle to find out what the meaning and purpose of your life is. The church will tell you."

Since founding FA four years ago, Luce and Yao have fielded tens of thousands of calls from people desperate to break out of fundamentalism.

Other pleas for help come from the husbands and wives of recent converts who have watched their spouses change personality almost overnight, smashing record collections, disowning old friends, moving the children to fundamentalist schools, and refusing to go to the movies or to parties.

"Sometimes it happens after a couple has been married as long as twenty years or more," said Yao. "He or she will often try to browbeat his partner into conforming too, and may force the spouse to hand over 10 per cent of his or her earnings to the church. It's like having an alcoholic in the family, only it's religion."

Yao and Luce run their organisation from the basement of a church in mid-town Manhattan where address they keep secret for fear of reprisals. There have already been several bomb hoaxes and death threats. On one occasion, Yao was knocked to the ground, and had a knife held to his throat.

The founders of FA are totally opposed to kidnapping and brainwashing, on the grounds that it is immoral, expensive and usually

ineffective. Both men remain committed Christians — Luce is the trustee of the Baptist Church where he worships. "If people are happy to be fundamentalists then we are happy to leave them be," said Luce. "If not, we're here to help."

Help comes in the form of weekly sessions, during which people are encouraged to talk out their experiences, and in an emergency hot-line, manned in 300 cities throughout the U.S. From an initial budget of \$70,000 — plowed in from the savings of Luce and Yao — the organisation now has an annual income of \$250,000, funded by various foundations and by private benefactors. FA also provides free legal aid to victims of some of the many TV evangelist scams uncovered over the past few years.

The FA is currently fighting to recover some of the more than \$1.5 million sent in to TV's most infamous fundamentalist couple, Jim and Tammy Bakker for a time-share scheme run by their PTL ministry which promised viewers a three-day stay once a year for the rest of their lives in a luxury "Christian" hotel in South Carolina.

"One hundred and sixty thousand people sent in \$1000 each, but the hotel could only take 300 people at a time," said Luce. "In the end, PTL collapsed, so these people had no way of getting their money back. A lot of them were little old ladies living on pensions of \$10,000 a year, so \$1000 was a great deal of money to them. It all went to line the pockets of the Bakkers."

In another case, FA provided legal help to a father whose fundamentalist son committed suicide during a bout of depression brought on by the distress of abandoning his non-fundamentalist family. "The boy went to his minister and asked if he should consult a psychiatrist," said Luce. "Instead, the minister said he should pray for guidance, and

when that didn't help, he told the boy that sometimes suicide is God's way of calling his children home. The boy went home and shot himself to death."

Callers to FA's hotline complain fundamentalism has led them to bankruptcy, divorce and suicidal depression. One woman described how her husband kept her caged in the basement for three months to try to get the devil out of her. Another told how she sent every cent of her income to TV evangelist Jimmy Swaggart — who was recently involved in a prostitute scandal — and the Bakker duo.

"When I ran out of money, I cut back on my food budget. I ate popcorn for two weeks so I could send more," she said.

Former fundamentalists have complained of physical and sexual abuse, including incest, say Luce and Yao. "It happens a lot. It's frightening how many stories we hear of sexual abuse," said Yao. "It's like the sex scandals that have involved people like Jimmy Swaggart and Jim Bakker. There is so much sexual repression in these circles that it explodes," he said.

Equally disturbing, they claim, is the way born-again Christianity has infiltrated the education system.

At Liberty University in Virginia, a college founded by former TV evangelist Jerry Falwell, "frivolous" music is banned, and students are made to adhere to a rigid code of behaviour. "What is really frightening, is that it's a regular university, which teaches subjects like math and science, but instead of teaching Darwin's Theory of Evolution, the science department teaches creationism. It's like stepping back into the Middle Ages," said Luce. "These are students who, when they graduate, are going to go out and teach the same thing in schools," he added. "By the same token, some fundamentalists believe that Christ spoke English, and

that it's therefore satanic to learn foreign languages."

On the political front, many fundamentalist groups are directly linked to extreme right-wing organisations, claims FA. "The fundamentalists operate a system of tithing of their members' incomes," said Luce. "Often it is as much as thirty per cent. One third will go to the church, another third will go to the TV evangelists, and a third will go to a political fund."

Down in Dallas, Texas, former fundamentalist Anne McKinnie, who married into a family of born-again Christians, says the right-wing is dominated by the evangelical movement. "The fundamentalists are synonymous with the ultra-conservative right down here," she said. "If you are in the church, but are not in the correct political alignment, you can be forced out. It happened to a minister here quite recently."

"Here in the south, fundamentalism is everything," she added. "You can literally advance your career by going to the right church, the way some people get on in their jobs by going to the right country club."

McKinnie, 32, left the movement years ago. Her sister, however, remains a faithful follower.

"She really went off the deep end," said McKinnie. "She refuses to cut her hair, wear make-up, and will only wear black, blue or white clothes. She got rid of the TV and the stereo. That's when religion becomes excessive."

"Fundamentalism also means big bucks," she added. "At a church near here, there is an annual fund raising push, and when they've finished passing the plate around it's not unusual for them to have collected \$6 million to \$7 million. There is another church in Houston which has an indoor bowling alley and tennis courts. God certainly does move in mysterious ways" — World News Link.

'Black Rain': Looking at Japan after the bombs had fallen

By Patrick L. Smith

TOKYO — Early on in Shohei Imamura's prize-winning new film, "Black Rain," a middle-aged husband and wife are salvaging what they can from the rubble of their Hiroshima home. It is just after 8 a.m. on Aug. 6, 1945; the first atomic bomb has just exploded.

"May I take some cucumbers?" the wife asks as she digs through a pile of stones and timber that used to be the family kitchen.

"Why not?" her husband replied without looking up from his own quarry. "Let's go."

It is hard to think of a recent film by any director that is more economic in the way each scene contributes so essentially to the whole. And it is hard to think of a single moment in "Black Rain," although there are many that are memorable, that so distills the juxtaposition between people and events that is at the heart of all Imamura's work.

Nothing is wasted in "Black Rain," which took the grand prize for technical excellence at Cannes this year and which is

already being described as one of Imamura's masterpieces. Imamura dispenses with the destruction of Hiroshima within a matter of minutes and returns to it only in brief flashbacks later.

Nonetheless, it is probably inevitable that "Black Rain," which opens in Europe next month, will be discussed, criticized, celebrated or defiled this autumn as a film about "the bomb" and all the attendant dimensions of modern political reality. And that is a pity, since it misses the point entirely.

The quiet power of "Black Rain" lies not in any such message but in its subtle portrayal of ordinary people as they struggle with calamity and hardship. As in Masuji Ibuse's 1965 novel of the same name, Imamura's film is concerned with the lives of three people making their way in post-war Japan despite being touched by "the disease," as radiation sickness is known in the villages surrounding Hiroshima.

The earthly conflicts of everyday life have been Imamura's milieu since he made his cinematic debut 31 years ago; in one way or another, each film since has

been a street-level celebration of "the dailyness of living," as Randall Jarrell, the American poet of Imamura's generation, once put it.

"I am fed up with narrow interpretations of my work and by people who limit it by labelling it," Imamura said a few days ago, in a voice more amused than angry. "My real intention is to watch and describe these interesting things called humans."

As he spoke in the quiet of a Tokyo art gallery, the relaxed and genial director seemed far from the 32-year-old who dazzled the film world when "Stolen Desire" came out in 1958. Accepted since as a self-portrait, Imamura's first full-length feature film concerned a cultured youth's encounter with a troupe of brash and raucous itinerant players, "a throbbing volcano of humanity," as one critic described them.

That film, which had an edge of rip-roaring comedy about it, more or less defined Imamura's style and themes: the tenacity and vitality of humanity and the humour implicit in the human condition. These were later developed in "The Insect Woman"

(1963), about a villager who becomes a call-girl boss in Tokyo, and "Intentions of Murder," about another rural woman's response to rape.

After these early black-and-white films, Imamura spent a decade making a series of well-received documentaries on a range of Japanese subjects, and he made several colour features, including "The Ballad of Narayama" (1983), which won the grand prix at Cannes that year.

But for many of Imamura's closest critics, that award was more than tinged with irony. Imamura's big-budget colour period was a time when his films lost much of their power and directness, they said, chiefly because they were more diffuse than his earlier efforts and lacked the sense of the unexpected that lent his first films their originality.

Imamura's films are not about justice, equality or sympathy, but about the way life is: You got raped, but you can go on," said Tadao Sato, a prominent Japanese critic. "In his early films, he created an unknown world.

"But in his middle period, there was no sense of discovery in what Imamura was directing. Everything he was doing had been done. 'Ballad' was not a bad film; there was simply nothing new in it."

Sato, who counts a book on Imamura among the 60 he has written on Japanese film over the past three decades, ranks "Black Rain" among Imamura's three masterpieces, the others being "Intentions of Murder" and "The Profound Desire of the Gods" (1968), about the clash of primitive and modern culture in post-war Okinawa.

"Black Rain's" plot revolves around the efforts of Shigematsu Shizuma and his wife, wealthy landowners in a village outside Hiroshima, to marry off their niece, Yasuko, by countering rumours that she was in central Hiroshima when the city was bombed.

After the opening episode the film moves to the early 1950s, when victims of the explosion were the objects of discrimination throughout Japan. "Black Rain's" three main characters, all of whom were, in fact, exposed to



A scene from "Black Rain"

atomic radiation, live as "a community bound by the bomb," as Shigematsu puts it.

It is an uncharacteristically subtle and understated treatment when compared with Imamura's early films. But critics link it closely to them, and not just because Imamura chose to shoot it in black and white.

"This is a welcome return to the extraordinarily compassionate control of Imamura's best pictures," says Donald Richie, the preminent critic of Japanese film. "His style has never been more concise, his timing is im-

maculate. He simply never loses control."

It is a return in another sense, as well. Imamura's career has often been seen as a long rebellion against Yasujiro Ozu, the formalist master under whom Imamura worked before directing his own films. Where Ozu might have spent an hour arranging a couple of sofa cushions before making a shot, the random chance, the chaos of life were what Imamura wanted to capture on film.

If the subject has not essentially changed — who else has found

humour in Hiroshima, as Imamura has? — the treatment is substantially more mature.

Ozu described people as if they were static, never changing shape, like tennis rackets, and I resisted him for this," Imamura said. "I want to show that people live vividly in spite of sadness, and that they change whenever you touch them. But Ozu brought me up — I admit that now, I've recently come to understand his direction much better than I did."

"And I'm proud of that," he added — International Herald Tribune.

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مكتبة الأمل

UAE share trading triggers complaints

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) should copy its neighbours by setting up an official stockmarket to attract more investment and curb manipulation of share prices, senior bankers and officials have said.

They said a 40 per cent leap over six months in the National Bank of Abu Dhabi (NBAD) stock index, which tracks the existing telephone traded stock market, reflects improving UAE economic prospects but is also due to attempts to manipulate prices.

"Basically we want this market to be free of speculation and manipulation," said central bank adviser Osama Al Maliki.

Senior NBAD Manager Ziad Dabbas described a favourite technique of share manipulators: "They advertise without any intention of buying. They just want to influence the market to raise prices up and sell their own shares higher."

Share dealers, including some brokers, were looking for "profits not based on sound economic grounds," he said.

The NBAD index, which hit 1,397.06 Thursday. The index tracks share price moves of local banks and other companies.

Governments of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

states have seen their oil revenues dwindle with the world oil price collapse of the 1980s.

Repatriation of even a small amount of the estimated \$300 billion in overseas GCC funds would go a long way to supporting traditionally state-led investment, bankers said.

Oman and Bahrain opened stockmarket floors this year, and Qatar is considering one. Kuwait's market has been established for almost eight years.

Saudi Arabia briefly opened a floor in 1987 but closed it after what bankers said were objections from religious leaders. Islam sees shares as a form of usury, which it condemns.

The UAE has been considering a floor since 1985 but officials said disparities in the laws of the seven emirates which make up the UAE federation have slowed progress.

The Abu Dhabi-based Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) is preparing a study on a new market, an AMF official said.

In December the GCC agreed in principle that any GCC citizen

would be able to deal in shares on other GCC bourses but this has yet been ratified in the UAE.

Saving oil, gas reserves

In another area, the planning ministry said that the UAE should cut its output of oil and gas to maintain reserves.

The official WAM news agency quoted the ministry's annual report as saying oil and gas were the best investment for the country's future and that reserves should be made to last as long as possible.

A Reuters survey shows that UAE oil output has risen since last year and that last month it produced 1.8 million barrels per day (b/d), compared with its OPEC-assigned sales quota of 1.041 million b/d.

The UAE, whose main export is oil, has argued that its quota should be raised because of the size of its reserves, estimated officially at about 100 billion barrels. They would last more than 100 years at the current production rate.

Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba said early this year the UAE should exploit its oil reserves before an alternative world energy source emerged.

The planning ministry said production should be linked to development requirements and to diversifying sources of income.

Solidarity seeks debt relief, lower inflation and budget cuts

WARSAW (R) — Solidarity's leading economic expert says the new government of Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki must cut inflation, seek new credits, make budget cuts, abolish subsidies and close unprofitable factories.

Professor Witold Trzeciakowski also says Mazowiecki should ask the West and the Soviet Union to reschedule Poland's debts. Poland owes \$39 billion to Western banks and governments and 6.5 billion roubles (\$10 billion) to Moscow.

Mazowiecki told reporters he might call a referendum to ask Poles if they were ready for austerity measures to end problems such as inflation, now soaring towards 200 per cent, budget deficits and industrial uncompetitiveness.

"I am considering that measure. But I don't know yet if it would be right. People might speak out but they might be so dispirited that they wouldn't bother. Experts will have to be consulted," Mazowiecki said.

Trzeciakowski, an expert at Poland's Academy of Sciences who advises Solidarity, outlined proposals for Mazowiecki's government in an interview with the union's newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza.

"The most dangerous of the present negative phenomena is hyper-inflation," he said. "We must proceed with serious budget cuts, abolish subsidies and liquidate unprofitable enterprises."

Solidarity officials acknowledge there are big question marks over whether Poles will accept more sacrifices after food price rises this month which hit 500 per cent in some areas.

They also fear resistance to planned reforms — such as the transfer of industries to the private sector — from communist bureaucrats with a vested interest in centralisation.

Solidarity plans to challenge the long-standing communist practice of giving influential jobs in factories and the state economic apparatus to politically trustworthy people.

"I back the idea of promotions in the workplace according to competence. But in the first hours, please don't make things difficult for me by creating an atmosphere of threats and tensions which could obstruct my task," Mazowiecki said.

He said Poland should repay its debts, but added: "Efforts should be made in international relations so that debts do not become something strangling the economic development of debtor countries."

Trzeciakowski said the new government should ask the Paris Club of Western nations, to which Poland owes about \$25 billion, for a rescheduling of debts over a 25-year period.

He said Poland should also reach a deal legalising the fact that it has been unable to interest years to pay annual debt interest of between \$2 and \$3 billion.

"We have to negotiate a rescheduling of our repayments of debts to the Soviet Union, which total 6.5 billion roubles," he said, without specifying the terms Poland should seek.

He urged a three-year aid programme from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) amounting to \$600 to \$700 million each year. Mazowiecki said he hoped to present proposals to the IMF next month, but did not go into details.

Trzeciakowski said the World Bank should give Poland annual credits of between \$500 million and \$1 billion for three years to promote exports.

He also suggested Poland's debt could be reduced to its real market value. \$1 of Polish debt was actually worth no more than 38 cents on credit markets, he said.

Jordan Times
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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Japan arrests 2,700 illegal workers

TOKYO (AP) — Japan arrested more than 2,700 foreigners, mostly Bangladeshis and Pakistanis, between May 29 and June 17 for working or staying in Japan illegally, the justice ministry has said. Police and immigration authorities arrested 2,705 foreigners in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya during a campaign to "expose illegal foreign workers," said a ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity. He said 306 other foreigners surrendered voluntarily to police during the campaign. The official said Japan has deported 3,013 foreigners, including 749 Bangladeshis, 664 Pakistanis, 422 South Koreans, 360 Filipinos, 177 Malaysians, 113 Thais, 77 Chinese, including Taiwanese, 66 Indians, 17 Ghanians and 14 Nigerians. He said 57 per cent of 2,174 males arrested while working in the major cities during the campaign were factory workers, and 32.7 per cent construction workers. The remaining worked in such jobs as dishwashers and packing workers, the official said. In a similar campaign in Tokyo last year, Japan deported 1,870 foreigners for violating immigration laws, the official said.

Egypt qualifies privatisation

ALEXANDRIA (R) — President Hosni Mubarak appears to have ruled out any major sell-off of the public sector and said Egypt would not allow key projects to fall into foreign hands. Mubarak said projects that were strategic must stay publicly owned. Profitable businesses should also be kept and loss-making ones would be hard to sell. "Strategic projects cannot be given to the private sector because it cannot afford to buy them and we cannot accept foreign domination again in Egypt," a spokesman for Mubarak quoted him as saying. Egypt has said it wants to boost private sector enterprise in its struggling economy but seems unwilling to make real cuts in its big public sector. "There is a problem in selling loss-making companies. Nobody will buy them and if we do sell it will be with great losses," Mubarak was reported as saying. He said 79 companies out of a total 393 public sector companies were loss-making. "It is not logical to sell companies which are making profits," the spokesman quoted him as saying.

Campbell Soup to restructure

CAMDEN, New Jersey (AP) — Campbell Soup Co., which began making soup here 120 years ago, will close its original plant, three U.S. factories and five overseas for a loss of nearly 2,800 jobs.

Campbell said it would keep its headquarters in this poor southern New Jersey City on the Delaware River, but would move production at the 940-employee plant to Camerías in Napoleon, Ohio; Paris, Texas and Maxton, North Carolina. The headquarters employs about 1,700 people.

The company said that as part of a worldwide restructuring it also plans to close a 272-employee plant in Pocomoke City, Maryland; a plant employing 246 people in Crisfield, Maryland, and an 84-employee plant in Smyrna, Tennessee.

The five overseas plants to be closed employ 1,200 people, but were not identified. Campbell said it would close the Camden plant by next July, but did not have a timetable for any of the other closings.

"We feel that this will make Campbell more efficient," said a spokeswoman. She said the U.S. plants being closed were older, and "just aren't as efficient as they should be."

"It would cost over \$1 billion to bring the Camden plant alone up to date," she noted.

Plants in Chicago, Memphis, Michigan; Doylestown and Pottstown, Pennsylvania already have closed, and Campbell has sold its fresh-produce subsidiary and ingredient plants in other areas.

The company has about 100 plants around the world, 60 of them in the United States.

Campbell sells about five billion cans of soup a year, garnering about 65 per cent of the \$2.2 billion retail soup market, a drop of about five per cent in the past five years.

Although Campbell is closing the plant where it got its start in 1869, it plans to start building a new \$35 million headquarters on the waterfront across the Delaware river from Philadelphia.

An analyst said the announcement constituted a statement by Campbell management that "we're going to be lean and mean."

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Belgian franc (for 10)	146.3	147.8

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Iran's straitjacket economic policies encourage corruption

TEHRAN (R) — A bribery scandal surrounding Iran's heavy industry minister has highlighted a surge in corruption sparked by straitjacket government regulations, economists say.

Many factory managers are turning to the black market to get much-needed foreign exchange, a scarce commodity in an economy battered by eight years of war with Iraq, the economists said.

"The government is (forcing) managers to earn the foreign exchange they need... through exports," an Iranian economist said.

"But Iran's industrial development needs more foreign exchange than it can earn" just by selling abroad, he said.

Heavy Industry Minister Ezzat Nabavi last week survived an attempt to impeach him in parliament over his alleged involvement in corruption at a factory that makes Renault cars.

But political sources said the managing director of the Saipa factory, Dourak Mansour, was sentenced to eight years in prison and 70 lashes over the multi-

million dollar scam.

The government has largely suppressed the private sector since the 1979 Islamic revolution and radical legislators regard many ordinary management policies as un-Islamic.

The economy has become so distorted that black market dealers buy the dollar for 20 times the official rate.

The economists said President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, elected last month, is determined to revive the economy with more market-oriented policies.

Only Sunday legislators will debate cabinet changes that would replace Islamic hardliners with technocrats.

Nabavi, for years a key figure in imposing government control over the economy, has been dropped from the line-up.

Western economists estimate that Iran's export earnings, about 90 per cent of them from oil sales, have been running at up to \$15 billion a year — not enough to rebuild the country's industrial base and at the same time import scarce consumer goods.

The country's foreign currency reserves at the end of this year will be only about \$6 billion excluding gold reserves, the economists said.

As a result, the government is reluctant to part with foreign exchange to invest in anything but the essential energy industry. Other industries must fend for themselves.

"Look around (Gulf countries) and you will see everything from Iranian washing powder to biscuits for sale," said an Iranian trader.

"Iran's factories all want to export. That is why there are no consumer goods in Iran," the Iranian economist said.

Traders in Dubai, a Gulf emirate that does heavy trade with Iran, said Saipa managers had notionally sold Renault 1,000 CC saloons to buyers there.

But the cars never left Iran. They were resold there to people willing to pay a hefty premium to jump the official waiting-list. The scam may have been worth \$360 million, the traders said.

Australian Airlines, pilots prepare for next moves

MELBOURNE (R) — Australian Airlines' domestic services, threatened by a two-week-old wage dispute, were searching for new pilots Saturday as both sides in the bitter wage row spent the weekend planning their next moves.

A spokesman for all three airlines said Saturday events had moved so fast that everyone was using the weekend to take a break from hostilities and catch up on paperwork.

All 1,600 pilots resigned en masse Thursday to avoid being picked off one-by-one with legal action and dismissal over their 30 per cent pay claim, and the airlines advertised for new pilots Saturday in major Australian newspapers.

But an Australian Federation of Airline Pilots spokesman said Saturday that none of its members had responded to the offer and that they were preparing for a long campaign.

State-owned Australian Airlines and its private counterparts Ansett and East-West Airlines, are using the weekend break to work with lawyers to catch up on paperwork after a week which has seen more writs flying in Australia than aircraft.

Peter Young of Ansett, speaking for the three airlines, said in a telephone interview from Melbourne: "Airline staff and lawyers are dotting the T's and crossing the T's on writs issued last week and preparing for the ones to be issued next week."

Young confirmed there had been no immediate response to the newspaper advertisements but noted applications would have to be made in writing and none was expected for a few days at least.

The airlines are taking action against both individual pilots and the Australian Federation of Airline Pilots in an effort to recover damages for lost revenue — up to five million dollars (\$4 million) a day for Australian and Ansett and at least one million dollars (\$750,000) by East-West.

The airlines also face long-service and pension payments of between \$500,000 and one million dollars (\$375,000 and \$750,000) to each pilot, money the pilots need to help them through

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Mazowiecki, Solidarity win first strike battle

WARSAW (R) — Poland's new prime minister, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, won his first battle over industrial unrest Saturday when railwaymen ended a one-day strike and foundry workers proposed a six-month strike moratorium.

Rail workers in the central city of Lodz heeded an appeal by Solidarity leader Lech Walesa to go back to work and pledged faith in Mazowiecki, who Thursday became Poland's first non-communist prime minister in more than 40 years.

Mazowiecki's hopes of winning workers' support for austerity measures to slash soaring inflation and tackle a foreign debt of \$39 billion were boosted by foundry workers in the key industrial city of Katowice.

"We suggest a six-month strike moratorium to give the new government a chance to start effective work on saving the Polish economy and saving Poland," they said in an appeal printed on the front page of the Warsaw

newspaper Zycie Warszawy.

Strikes would plunge Poland deeper into crisis and all industrial disputes for the next six months should be solved by negotiations with management, the foundry workers said. All Poles should unite behind their new prime minister, they said.

Katowice and the surrounding region in southwest Poland is the country's main industrial area. It produces most of Poland's steel and coal, its main source of hard currency needed to pay off the crippling foreign debt.

Industrial calm in Poland is important to reassure Moscow that Poland will not fall into anarchy.

Vladimir Kryuchkov, head of the Soviet KGB security service,

flew to Poland and had talks Saturday with President Wojciech Jaruzelski and acting Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak, Warsaw Radio said, without giving further details.

The foundry workers' proposal echoed an appeal by Walesa Friday for workers to back Mazowiecki, a veteran adviser to the free trade union Solidarity. He said radical reforms were needed and that Poles should not hinder them by striking.

"Poland has a chance after 45 years (of communist rule) and it should not waste it. I appeal to you to support Prime Minister Mazowiecki," Walesa said in a statement from Gdansk, the Baltic City where Solidarity was born from strikes in 1980.

The rail workers in Lodz, Poland's second largest city, heeded the appeal. Polish television said Mazowiecki met strike leaders in Warsaw late Friday, without giving details.

"We have resolved to suspend

our strike action, giving proof of our support and confidence in the prime minister," the strikers said in a statement to Mazowiecki.

"We believe that you represent the interests of the working people as prime minister and that you will undertake immediate decisions on our demands (for more pay and restructuring the work system)," they said.

The Lodz stoppage had threatened to become the first major strike since Mazowiecki took office, raising the spectre of a revolt against Solidarity by its own power base — the workers.

Strikes in four coal mines in the Katowice region ended Thursday. Protests by health and transport workers over huge food price rises imposed Aug. 1 continued in some areas.

Mazowiecki, the editor of Solidarity's weekly newspaper Tygodnik Solidarnosc, has made economic reforms a top priority. He appealed Friday for aid from the United States.



Striking South African hospital workers confront a policeman outside a Cape Town hospital.

Pretoria signals further crackdown on protests

PRETORIA (R) — Law and Order Minister Adrian Vlok signalled Saturday that a further crackdown was likely against anti-apartheid unrest ahead of South Africa's racially segregated elections next month.

Vlok, who is in charge of internal security forces, said there had been more than 1,000 incidents since anti-apartheid groups in July launched a campaign against the Sept. 6 poll, adding the country could not afford a new spiral of violence.

Speaking at a meeting of senior police officers, he said the government would talk to those who renounced violence but "not those who hold a gun to our heads."

"In the light of the long-awaited peace process, which is fast gaining momentum, South Africa cannot afford to be subjected to the same spiral of violence that existed before the state of emergency was declared," Vlok said.

The white minority government imposed sweeping emergency laws three years ago to quell a nationwide anti-apartheid revolt.

"It is therefore the duty of the government to protect lives and property with the powers vested in it. This we will fulfill with responsibility and diligence," Vlok said.

The minister did not say what action the government planned to quell the unrest, the worst of

which has hit the Cape Town area. Two people were killed in the violence Friday.

Asked what action the government had in mind, Vlok said after his speech: "We are getting evidence. We are looking at the evidence very carefully."

Scores of students and activists have already been arrested. Official sources said Vlok's speech seemed to set the scene for further moves but declined to say what they would be.

In black and (mixed-race) coloured townships around Cape Town, police have used shotguns, rubber bullets, teargas and whips to disperse crowds of protesters who have marched with placards, burned barricades and stoned cars and trucks.

On Friday the government banned all protests against a controversial rugby tour by an international team and imposed tight restrictions on a weekend meeting by trade unions.

The protests have poisoned the political atmosphere ahead of the parliamentary elections, in which whites, coloureds and ethnic Indians vote for separate houses of parliament.

South Africa's black majority is excluded from the polls.

The ruling National Party, in power since 1948, faces challenges both from the right, which wants more stringent apartheid laws, and from the liberal left.

The Nationalists, headed by

acting President F.W. de Klerk, are expected to win but with a reduced majority.

Police Saturday arrested 30 demonstrators in Cape Town protesting the rugby tour.

Two separate demonstrations, held hours before the start of a match in Cape Town, were part of the nationwide anti-apartheid campaign launched Aug. 2.

Also Saturday, the country's two largest anti-apartheid labour federations began a weekend meeting at which they were expected to discuss possible protests against the elections.

Twenty-eight demonstrators were arrested at a hotel after meeting briefly with Willie John McBride, manager of the international squad made up of Australian, French and British players.

Two activists also were arrested when about 30 protesters gathered outside the main Cape Town branch of First National Bank, which is sponsoring the rugby tour.

The International XV squad, whose tour was approved by the International Rugby Board, already has played two matches in South Africa. But Saturday's contest was the first against the South African national squad, the Springboks.

Rugby is the most popular team sport among white South Africans, who believe their squad would be the best in the world if allowed to compete regularly on an international level.

Japan's high-ranking woman may give new image to politics

TOKYO (R) — Mayumi Morioka, appointed Japan's first female chief cabinet secretary to replace a male politician disgraced in a sex scandal, may change the image of Japan's male-dominated politics.

Morioka, known as "iron woman" because of her strong will, has taken the most prestigious post in Japanese government ever attained by a woman.

She is an expert on international affairs, once serving as parliamentary vice-foreign minister. Until her appointment on Friday she was head of the environmental agency, one of two women cabinet ministers appointed by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

She was named to the new post to succeed Tokuo Yamashita, 69, who resigned following reports,

which he largely confirmed, that he had tried to pay a large amount of money to end an affair with a part-time bar hostess.

Some opposition leaders said Morioka was appointed only because as a woman she would help improve the public image of the government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

But Takako Doi, the chairwoman of the leading opposition Japan Socialist Party (JSP), was quoted by local media as saying: "I know her well. She is a very able person."

The Mainichi newspaper said: The thought that politics is not for women still lingers among many men.

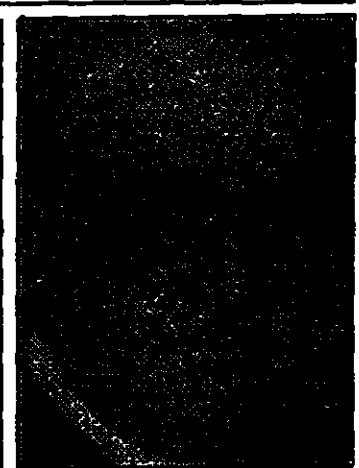
"They seem unaware of the changes that are occurring in society... and it would be no exag-

geration to say that a politician who is left behind the current of change can no longer remain a politician," it said.

Even though Morioka's appointment may be an LDP ploy to take the focus away from the Yamashita scandal, it does put women even more in the political spotlight, several analysts noted.

As chief cabinet secretary, she will speak for the prime minister and the cabinet. She will also be responsible for coordinating plans and projects involving several ministries and for receiving visitors on behalf of the prime minister when he is unavailable.

Analysts said the post will give her public visibility which may help attract women voters to the LDP when the next general election is held.



Andreas Papandreu

Papandreu refuses to testify

ATHENS (AP) — Former Premier Andreas Papandreu refused Friday to testify before a parliamentary committee investigating his alleged involvement in a major financial scandal that led to his fall from power.

Instead, Papandreu sent a note to the committee questioning its legality. He referred members to a memorandum he submitted to an earlier commission of inquiry into the scandal formed when he was premier.

Parliament voted in July to authorize the investigation of Papandreu and four of his former ministers in connection with the \$210 million Bank of Crete embezzlement scandal.

Papandreu's Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) lost the national elections in June amid allegations that he and former ministers had authorized the activities of the bank's owner and Chairman George Koskotas, or had taken bribes from him.

A government formed by the conservative New Democracy Party and the Communist-led Coalition of the Left and Progress July 2 vowed to cleanup political life before holding new elections.

A Boston magistrate ruled this week that Koskotas should be extradited to Greece from the United States where he fled last November.

While fighting extradition Koskotas claimed in several interviews that Papandreu had blackmailed him into embezzling the bank for the benefit of his party. Papandreu denies the allegations.

In his message Friday, Papandreu wrote: "I will not go into the legality of the proposal for an investigation and the procedures of the committee, not into the interests which they undoubtedly serve."

He attached a memorandum which he sent in February to the members of a committee set up to probe the Bank of Crete scandal. That committee was disbanded prior to the elections before submitting a report.

Papandreu admitted in the memorandum that he had met three times with Koskotas, at the latter's request, but that he had moved swiftly to order an investigation into the banker's illegal activities when he was informed of them.

Papandreu and his party have claimed since the Koskotas scandal broke last October that the scandal was being exploited by their political enemies.

Meanwhile, another parliamentary committee investigating widespread wire-taps allegedly carried out during Papandreu's eight years in power, called Friday on Papandreu to testify or to submit a memorandum before the end of the month.

Papandreu is also being investigated in connection with his government's purchase of 80 U.S. and French jetfighters that the present government claims were overpriced.

Kashmir leader vows to crush rebels

SRI NAGAR, India (R) — The chief minister of India's strife-torn Kashmir vowed Saturday to crush a secessionist movement in the state but said he was ready to pull back from direct confrontation over press censorship.

Farooq Abdullah, speaking a few hours after security forces besieged Kashmir's largest mosque in Sri Nagar to flush out extremists, said the militants posed a grave threat to the state's security and its tourist-based economy.

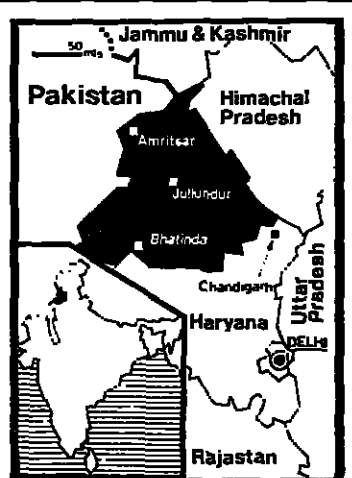
"We must not take it sitting down or by being complacent," he said in an interview. "We must hit them now and hit them hard and not let the situation drift."

He accused the state's press of aiding rebels fighting for Muslim-dominated Kashmir's independence from India or for it to become part of neighbouring Pakistan.

A upsurge of violence prompted Abdullah to push a tough censorship bill through the state assembly this week against fierce opposition from the press.

Newspaper editors pledged to defy the law, but Abdullah said he was ready to drop it if journalists wrote a code of conduct to prevent the militants being depicted as heroes or the highlighting of communist or secessionist views.

"If with these three points they make a code of conduct and they



will stick to it and they will take action against those who break the code, I will withdraw the bill," he said.

Abdullah, a tall figure dressed entirely in white, said he would use the bill if journalists did not respond.

Security forces captured at least two militants in Sri Nagar's Jama Masjid Mosque Friday along with an assault rifle and two pistols, he said.

The siege began after Friday prayers when shots were fired at security forces patrolling the tense old city which is a hotbed of militancy, he said.

Worshippers barricaded themselves inside the mosque and Abdullah said the militants effectively held the congregation hostage.

Four hours later the siege ended after police got the main door open and 157 youths were taken off for interrogation.

The two suspected rebels were caught buried up to their necks in a heap of sand and covered by a blanket.

Thousands of police have been posted to the state in the foothills of the Himalayas since a spate of shootings and bombings

Voyager sends thrilling pictures

PASADENA, California (AP) — Voyager 2 headed towards interstellar space Saturday, leaving behind stunning photos of Neptune's moon Triton, where pink snow falls on towering ice volcanoes that are unlike anything else in the solar system.

"The range of geological forms is dazzling," astronomer-author Carl Sagan said Friday. "We are almost certainly in a regime of volcanism involving ices, maybe exotic ices" such as water ice mixed with frozen nitrogen or methane (natural gas).

The one-tonne space probe capped its historic 7.13-billion-kilometre, 12-year tour of four planets when it skimmed 4,905 kilometres over Neptune's north pole Thursday night, then dove past Triton, the planet's largest moon. It made its closest approach about 38,460 kilometres above the moon's surface at 0910 GMT Friday.

During its approach to Neptune, Voyager discovered six moons besides Nereid and Triton, which were first observed from Earth. It also discovered one complete ring of debris around the planet and a partial ring, or ring arc, scientists believe will also prove to be a complete ring.

Although Voyager has passed its closest encounters with Neptune and Triton, it is continuing to send back recorded photographs taken during its closest approach.

The photographs show a cracked, frozen Triton scarred by 300-metre-high ridges, fault lines, bowl-shaped craters, mysterious domes and dark spots ringed with white halos that so far defy explanation.

"The images returned this morning revealed a world unlike any we've ever seen," Voyager project scientist Edward Stone said Friday at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) jet propulsion laboratory.

Icy volcanic flows have been seen on Uranus' moon Ariel and some other moons, but Triton is the first place scientists have actually seen ice volcanoes, Stone said.

NASA geologist Joseph Boyce said one of the ice volcanoes — which look like dry lakebeds filled with smooth material — measures several hundred kilometres across.

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COLUMN

Spintars face price problem

HONG KONG (R) — A village in China has a strict custom requiring men to pay at least 10,000 yuan (\$2,700) for a woman's hand in marriage. It also has 600 spintars. The custom, and the high population of single women, in the village of He Feng is unmatched elsewhere in China, the semi-official China News Service said. For starters, a man looking to marry in the Jiangsu province village has to pay the bride's family 2,000 to 2,500 yuan (\$590 to \$615) in cash plus 120 to 150 silver ingots, CNS, mounted in Hong Kong, said Friday.

Cinderella' robber identified by shoes

BARI, Italy (R) — An Italian robber who held up a chemist's shop and fled without his shoes felt like Cinderella when police found they fit his feet and arrested him. Police said Antonio Schirone lost his clogs in a scuffle with the chemist during Friday's robbery in the southern town of Bari and was caught barefoot near the scene of the crime. "He denied he did it but the clogs were conclusive proof," a police spokesman said.

Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	22	26	14 57 Cloudy
ATHENS	22	26	35 85 Cloudy
BANGKOK	25	31	89 102 Clear
BELGRADE	15	21	59 70 Clear
BOMBAY	25	32	77 90 Clear
BRAZILIA	15	21	59 70 Clear
CHICAGO	17	23	63 73 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	10	16	50 61 Cloudy
DUBLIN	14	20	57 68 Rain
GENEVA	14	20	57 68 Cloudy
HONG KONG	25	30	77 86 Rain
ISTANBUL	21	27	70 81 Clear
LONDON	14	20	57 68 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	18	24	64 75 Clear
MADRID	22	28	72 82 Clear
MOSCOW	15	21	59 70 Clear
MUNICH	15	21	59 70 Clear
NEW DELHI	25	31	77 88 Cloudy
NEW YORK	15	21	59 70 Clear
PARIS	16	22	61 72 Cloudy
ROME	18	24	64 75 Clear
SEATTLE	10	16	50 61 Clear
SYDNEY	22	28	72 82 Cloudy
TOKYO	22	28	72 82 Cloudy
VIENNA	10	16	50 61 Cloudy

M—Indicates missing information.

THE Sunday Crossword

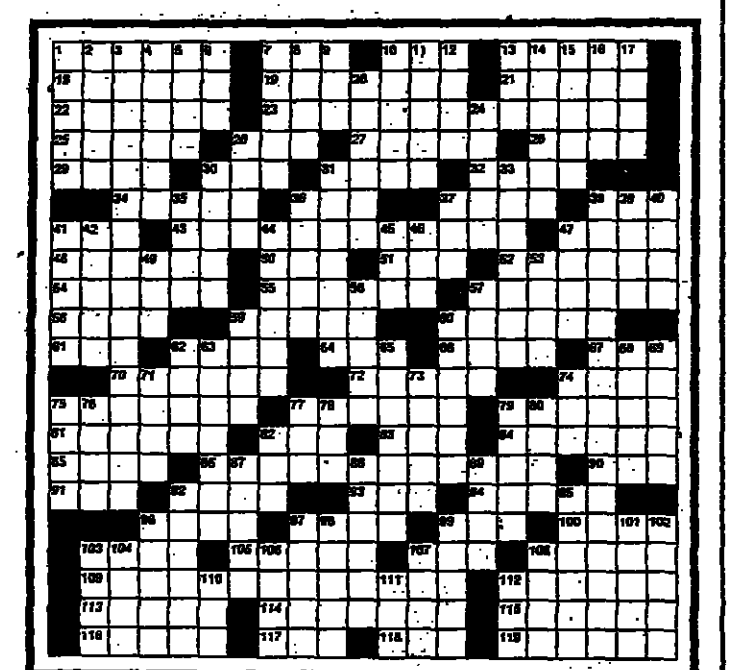
Edited by Herb Ertson

SETUPS By W. Russell McDowell

- ACROSS**
- Movie dog
 - Tree (at bay)
 - Take by force
 - One of the
 - Shooting
 - Space expert
 - Vanity of
 - Watermelon
 - Understate
 - Swarm
 - Benches
 - Will drive
 - Boomer
 - Teach to court
 - Rue — Pals
 - Collection
 - Ward
 - Or ash

- DOWN**
- Sound of thunder
 - Indignant
 - Horror movie
 - Take up
 - Long time
 - Swarm
 - Remember the mind
 - Music or
 - relating
 - Horse blanket
 - Mythical
 - Excitable
 - Address
 - Period of decline
 - Excavate
 - Network of
 - Urges

- ACROSS**
- 41 — Zola
 - 36 — mode
 - 37 — Gleanings
 - 38 — Miley
 - 41 Flat abdr.
 - 42 Tell it like it is
 - 46 — Cucumber
 - 47 — Gump
 - 50 — Hells
 - 51 Time zone
 - 52 — letters
 - 53 — Hells
 - 54 Activity spheres
 - 55 Support permit
 - 57 — Prose
 - 58 — Nostrs
 - 59 "Turn of the"
 - 60 — Deane
 - 61 — Reckless
 - 62 — Shere bird
 - 63 — Convent
 - 64 — Rafter



Last Week's Cryptograms

- Busy bee rapped by angry puzzle editor for accidental buzzing of
- Little old shoemaker made brown wooden sabots for friend's kid in Holland.
- Poor lawful Indian guide saw "No Smoking" sign on fir tree, and stopped smoking slash.
- Dentist claim children should benefit from an electric toothbrush.

CRYPTOGRAMS

- NEED NEVERLY IRREVOCABLES APULERS
SYLTO RIVELY RALTY ALNRIOL I TLH
NEEDLLLY.
- VIXW GANW CM PAVAFICOR FMCMYWE GR
HIFLYCLFOCYR. OXIZ ENE E PFWR
HERLEWZ.
- VUSCRE IFYF MIISTAKEMNNZ TUFFLAT
ESZV YUEYAK ACCHRANNH SEEF ACCENNEE
TSHR.
- TV BEFOG FEAROVO FEAKUP UF MUUD.
OYCEYODOG VMOKTOV ATVETPT.

—By Norton Rhoads

SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1. BEE, 2. SHOEMAKER, 3. GUIDE, 4. DENTIST.

DOWN: 1. BEE, 2. SHOEMAKER, 3. GUIDE, 4. DENTIST.